

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIII.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 19TH JANUARY, 1901.

No. 8.

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BIRTHS.

At Tsingtao, on the 4th January, 1901, the wife of Dr. SCHREMEIER, of a son.

On the 5th January, 1901, at 20, Whangpoo Road, Shanghai, the wife of Dr. PAULUN, of a daughter.

On the 10th January, 1901, at A 1,339, Broadway, Shanghai, the wife of RICHARD J. GOULD, late of Kiukiang, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 31st December, 1900, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, before H. E. Fulford, Esq., C.M.G., and afterwards at St. Nicholas's Church, Newchwang, by the Rev. A. B. Turner, M.A., ARTHUR BULKELEY IFFLAND VAN ESS, of Messrs. Bush Brothers, to LILLIE, only daughter of Charles FARMER.

On the 15th January, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, assisted by the Rev. E. H. Good, Chaplain of H.M.S. *Tamar*, G. J. P. GEIGER, Esq., Royal Welsh Fusiliers, to MARY, eldest daughter of Commodore and Mrs. POWELL.

DEATHS.

At "Glentawe," Scott's Road, Singapore, D. PARRY DAVIES, Tanjong Pagar Dock Co., aged 38 years.

On the 2nd January, 1901, at Ningpo, the beloved wife of GUSTAV KULTZAU.

On the 5th January, 1901, at 9, Albany Gardens, Shanghai, ROSA LLOYD, C.M.S. West China Mission.

On the 5th January, 1901, at 33, Seward Road, Shanghai, HUGH McCALMONT, youngest son of Chas. E. and Lily W. MOLLAND, aged three years.

On the 8th January, 1901, at 18, Broadway, Shanghai, JOHN SWALEBRIDGE KNOWLES, late Secretary of S. C. Farnham, Ltd., aged 53 years.

On the 8th January, 1901, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, ELEANOR HARRIS, wife of A. Stewart ANNAND, of Tientsin.

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 14th December arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, on the 16th January (33 days); the French mail of the 14th December arrived, per M. M. steamer *Laos*, on the 17th January (34 days); and the English mail of the 21st December arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, on the 17th January (27 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

A Census will be taken of the whole Colony on the night of the 20th instant.

220,000 Russian troops are engaged in the Far East, including those protecting the frontiers.

H.M. the Emperor of Japan has bestowed the third order of the Rising Sun upon Colonel Wogack, of the Russian army.

Colonel Buck, the U.S. Minister to Japan, who has obtained leave of absence, was to leave Yokohama by the *Siam* on the 8th inst.

H.E. Yuan Shu-hsuan arrived at Shanghai on the afternoon of the 11th inst. and took over the seal of the Shanghai Taotai ship next day.

A London telegram of the 14th instant stated that "Peking reported the signature of the Agreement between China and the Powers."

His Majesty the Emperor of Corea has been nominated Honorary Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire.

The Japanese section on the Peking and Tientsin railway has been handed over to Field Marshal Waldersee, in accordance with instructions from home.

Mgr. Favier landed on 18th ult. at Marseilles. He will act as intermediary between the Pope and the European Governments in matters requiring the considerations of the Holy See.

The courtmartial on H.M.S. *Barfleur* terminated yesterday in one of the accused men being sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment, and two to six months' each. The fourth was acquitted on Tuesday last.

The proposal of the United States to transfer the peace negotiations from Peking to the States has been rejected by the other Powers, and Japan is reported to object to the transference to any foreign capital.

A Wuchang despatch received in Shanghai last week says that the Emperor Kwang Hsu has several times of late telegraphed to the Viceroy from Hsian asking questions concerning the whereabouts of a number of Reformers of 1898. The replies of the Viceroy have not yet been made known.

Yesterday being the two-hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the Kingdom of Prussia, all the German men-of-war in the Harbour dressed ship and fired a salute of twenty-one guns at noon in honour of the event.

The railway line between Pehtsang and Lotai, according to the Japanese papers, has been finished since it was handed over to the Germans, who pushed on the work. Only a bridge remains to be spanned, and this is expected to be completed by the 15th inst.

It was rumoured in Shanghai on Monday last, according to the *N.-C. Daily News*, in local mandarin circles that a high official had received news from Hsian that the Empress Dowager is determined not to leave Hsian for Peking until the middle of February next, not at least before the Allies leave Chihli province.

A Hsian despatch, received by members of the Reform Party here, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, states that H.E. Li Hung-chang has suggested to the Court to recall Hsu Shi-p'ang, Minister to Corea, that he may assist in the peace negotiations now going on in the North, and that the suggestion has been followed.

The U.S. War Department has sanctioned Gen. MacArthur's suggestion for interning the leading Filipino rebels in Guam. A petition, signed by 2,000 non-combatant Filipinos and urging the cessation of hostilities, was shelved last week in the United States Senate, after a Senator had denounced it as treasonable and offensive.

The Russian Budget estimates the expense of putting the troops on the Amur and in Siberia on a war-footing at 62 million roubles. An account of the entire material loss cannot yet be submitted. The estimates for 1901 included an advance of 82 million roubles to the Manchurian railway companies. The Tsar's proclamation declares his peaceful intentions and the "sublime Christian work" of Russia.

The Emperor, according to a Hsian telegram of the 9th inst., has received a despatch from Viceroy Liu Kung-yi of Nanking, urging immediate sanction of four matters of national importance, namely:—1.—That the present dividing lines between Chinese and Manchus be levelled down. 2.—Schools of Learning for all Manchus and Chinese to be built through the Empire. 3.—Such schools to be free to all. 4.—Manchus to be allowed to trade and learn business like Chinese.

Vice-Admiral Pottier has made the following disposition of the French fleet in Chinese waters. The fleet has been divided into three groups:—(1) in the Gulf of Pechili, composed of the cruisers *Guichen*, *Pascal* and *Friant*, the gunboats *Vipère*, *Décidée*, and *Alouette*, the torpedo-boat destroyer *Ta-kou*, and the despatch vessel *Bengale*. Of these one will be stationed at Nagasaki, one or more at Chefoo, and the rest at Taku as base. (2) at Shanghai, composed of the cruisers *Admiral Charner*, *Chasseloup Laubat*, and *Jean Bart*, and the gunboats *Surprise* and *Lion*. These will watch the Yangtze, the neighbouring islands, and the coast down to Foochow. (3) from Foochow to the Tonkin frontier. The cruiser *Descartes*, and the gunboats *Stiz*, *Avalanche*, *Argus* and *Vigilante*. The *D'Entrecasteaux* and the transports are not included in this scheme. The former has gone to Japan to give the crew a rest.

CHINA AND HER CAPITAL.

(Daily Press, 14th January.)

Even the most sanguine cannot but feel disappointed at the latest turn events have taken in China. When it was definitely announced that the terms proposed by the Powers had been unconditionally accepted, it was generally felt, except by a few who had old experience of the Chinese Court, that at last the way to negotiations on a footing approaching to reciprocity was open; and that something would ultimately come of the long drawn out impediments. It now would appear that those who saw an approach to such an ending have been reckoning without their host, and that another indefinite period of uncertainty is in store. This time it cannot be laid at the doors of the foreign Powers or their representatives. Having unreservedly accepted the terms of the Joint Note, it was naturally presumed that in its own interest the nominal Government of China would have taken the opportunity of exchanging its present precarious position for one of comparative security. The Powers were loth to dictate to China, which they would fain acknowledge as a sovereign state, the position which it should select as its capital; and would gladly have left it to the good sense of its rulers. It is evident, even to Chinese eyes, that the attempt to rule the Empire from Hsian-fu has proved a failure. The provinces have submitted to it thus far, in the hope that the course adopted was only temporary, and that affairs would in a short time revert to their original channels. Peking is not an ideal capital; its traditions are almost without exception bad. It was associated with the foreign rule of the Mongols, which proved one of the most disastrous periods in Chinese history; it was reassumed by the illegitimate successor of HUNGWU, who set himself to contravene all the good that his illustrious predecessor had done for the good government of the Empire; and it was continued by the Manchu conquerors of China, because it afforded a ready means of making themselves independent of Chinese public opinion. Manchuria, as far as regards China at large, has ceased to be a political factor; and one of the peculiarities of the present position is that China is actually ruled by a nominally foreign dynasty, which has no country, and has actually ceased to be a power. Still, bad as Peking is, it has advantages such as Hsian cannot pretend to. This was evinced so long ago as A.D. 25, when China, being desirous of extending her imperial rule over the two Yuehs, found it necessary to move the capital to a more central position, selected Loyang in the present Honan. Since that the centre of influence has more distinctly than ever moved eastwards, and it has become a matter of necessity that the centre of rule to be effective must follow. It is therefore in the interests of China herself, far more than of foreign Powers, that the Emperor's advisers should make this distinctly clear. Those of the Powers, indeed, who secretly view with complacency the ruin of the Empire, can well afford to look with indifference on the suicidal policy of trying to rule from Hsian; and will certainly coincide in any scheme which may conduce to this end. And it is doubtless from some such insidious purpose that the present suggestion has been born. To the foreign Powers at large the choice of a capital is one with which they would rather not be concerned; and certainly it is not a point on which they are likely to be forced into making terms. To the foreigner generally, except in so far as he is concerned in the well-being of China

herself, the position of the capital is a matter of secondary consideration, and the attempt to use as a threat the retention of the present headquarters of an effete organisation is only a further proof—should any more be needed—of the utter ignorance and ineptitude for rule of those who overshadow the present Emperor. Far rather would we see some evidence of approaching reason, which might be made use of to strengthen the Imperial rule, and afford some hope that China had still within her the capacity of correcting the fatal error into which her false advisers have betrayed her.

THE FIRST STAGE OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

(Daily Press, 16th January.)

The news which is now to hand from North China appears to be of a satisfactory nature. Our London correspondent informs us that the announcement has been telegraphed from Peking that the agreement between the Powers and China has been signed at last. If this news comes, as is probable, from the *Times* correspondent at the Chinese capital, we may take it that the last obstacles to the acceptance of the Powers' demands have been overcome, and that the Imperial signature has been appended to the document. We were prepared for this by the intelligence that the loyal Viceroys had withdrawn their objections—for this is practically what we learnt from Shanghai at the beginning of the week. In Chinese affairs we are so accustomed to disappointment that it may seem venturesome to say that an important step toward the final settlement has been taken; but nevertheless, if it is a fact that a full and definite acceptance of the Allies' terms has been given by China, guaranteed by the imposition of the Imperial Seal, we may be justified in looking for the entrance of negotiations on the second stage, which, though it must necessarily prove long and tedious, is only a matter of arranging details. The offer of Prince Su, the Emperor's brother, to go to Berlin to convey China's apologies and regrets for the gross outrage against the sanctity of ambassadors which was committed in the murder of the unfortunate Baron von KETTLER, may prove the readiest solution of the first demand of the Allies. Other demands will be as easy to meet, but those relating to the future protection of the envoys to Chinese capital, and still more those which deal with the amelioration of the conditions of trade with China, promise to be matters of extreme difficulty, involving the greatest patience, combined with absolute firmness, on the part of the representatives of the Powers. It seems probable that LI HUNG-CHANG will have to be superseded by some other commissioner to be designated by the Emperor, for he is seriously ill, even if not on the point of death, as some accounts report. As for the representatives of the Powers, in more than one country has anxiety been expressed lest they should not adequately support the policy which is the wish of those whom they represent. Of Sir ERNEST SATOW, among others, considerable fear is felt that he will continue in the old way of British Ministers at Peking by not paying the attention to British commercial interests which their magnitude demands. But the main responsibility rests with the Foreign Office, from which the British Minister is directed, and the pressure on this body must therefore be increased now, if anything is to be done. For this reason the home public must not be allowed to forget.

THE GAGE STREET MURDER.

(Daily Press, 17th January.)

It was not to be expected that the authorities of Hongkong would take the public into their confidence with regard to the investigations into the murder last week of YEUNG KU WAN, which our correspondent "X" rightly denounces as a gross and daring violation of British territory. If there was any hope of cutting off the retreat of the murderers it lay in reticence as to any knowledge of their whereabouts. But more than six days have now elapsed since the brutal assassination was carried out, and it must be concluded that the criminals have got clear away into Chinese territory. Our correspondent states that only quite recently H. E. TAK SOW, Acting Viceroy at Canton, issued a proclamation offering a handsome reward for YEUNG KU WAN, alive or dead. If the Chinese authorities are unable to disprove this charge, a very serious aspect indeed is put upon the affair. It is alleged that the Acting Viceroy, being fully aware through his agents here that YEUNG, a British subject, was dwelling in a British Colony and there earning his living under the protection of our laws, offered a sum which he knew must incite some ruffians to carry out the desired crime. The guilt of the outrage rests on the instigators, not on the tools; H. E. TAK SOW and his officials, our correspondent says, must be held responsible for the murder. The Chinese Government has never been scrupulous in the means taken to get hold of the persons of those whom it considers dangerous politically. Instances of kidnapping will readily be recalled, including the celebrated seizure of SUN YAT-SEN in London, an act of extraordinary audacity which was fortunately frustrated by the vigilance of the home authorities. Only last month Shanghai was agitated by the spiriting away from the Settlement of KUNG CHAO, a young Reformer, whose return is still only "promised," although his capture took place on the 22nd ult. The event of the 10th inst., however, is a far graver matter. Had the murdered man been a dangerous Chinese criminal flying from justice the step taken would have still been an unpardonable violation of international law. But YEUNG was a British subject, thought still a patriotic Chinaman, and he trusted in the protection afforded him by a British Colony. He was not a criminal, but an honourable man, much esteemed locally, as was shown by the concourse at his funeral. He had every right to look for his protection from such a fate as befell him in his class-room in Gage Street last Thursday. The matter is one which cannot be passed over, and we may feel sure that the Government will not—it cannot, indeed, for its own sake—be put off by any excuses from exacting a full reparation from the Chinese authorities. We are not in favour of the violent measures advocated by certain fiery spirits who have let their generous feelings get the better of their discretion over this affair. But we certainly hold that if H. E. TAK SOW is responsible for the proclamation with the issuing of which he is charged he has shown himself totally unfit for holding any longer the post which he now occupies. The rulers of China have, during the past year, been taught a terrible lesson on the dangers of neglecting international rights and conventions. Another is needed, it appears, and it is necessary to see that it is taught to the right persons, that is, to the actual instigators of the outrage. The Canton authorities have the opportunity of clearing themselves, if they can; they cannot do so merely by delivering up the persons of the alleged

murderer and his associates for punishment. The actual criminal is the party behind the assassin and his accomplices who did their work so thoroughly last Thursday night, and for the honour alike of this Colony and of the British nation in general the guilt must be brought home to the right persons.

MYSTERIES IN NORTH CHINA.

(Daily Press, 12th January.)

The news from Peking given in our Shanghai correspondent's telegram of the 10th instant, to the effect that the terms imposed by the Powers are still unsigned "owing to the second refusal of the Emperor to sanction them," is more than a little mysterious. When, it may be asked, was the first refusal of the Emperor made? As far as the information which we possess goes, the Emperor has always expressed the greatest anxiety for peace. As the New Year opened we heard that he had issued a decree accepting the terms. Then it was stated from London that an official message had been received from the Chinese Government, accepting the terms of peace, but saying that an immediate compliance with them was impossible; and, on the other hand, that the representatives of the Powers had required the Imperial seal to be affixed to the document conveying China's acceptance of the terms. Now we learn that the Emperor has for the second time refused to sanction the terms. We are at a loss to find the previous refusal. When the first draft was made of the demands which China was called on to meet, a protest was made against the clause asking for the execution of the principal offenders, as being, owing to the rank of some of them, against the law of China. There was, however, no refusal to sign the demands, as they had not been presented for signature then. Not indeed until the 24th December were they definitely laid before the Chinese representatives in their final form; and then they were accepted within a week. It is plain, therefore, that either we have an incomplete story of the course of events or else the Peking news is incorrect. It may be that the refusal of Count von WALDERSEE to put a stop to the expeditions of the Allies inland into Chihli and beyond have occasioned a difficulty, for the Chinese evidently regard these as of an hostile character, although the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied forces claims that they are only directed to the protection of life and property. Speculation, however, on this point is unprofitable, for our information is too scanty.

A similar state of uncertainty prevails as to the progress of negotiations about the Shanhaikwan Railway. We are told to-day that a secret agreement is reported to have been discovered between Germany and Russia with regard to the railway. It seems improbable that this is more than a report. At the beginning of the week we heard that Russia would hand over the line—that is, the Shanhaikwan-Newchwang section, financed and built by British capital—to Mr. KINDER on Monday next, the 14th instant; while Berlin despatches are stated to tend to the confirmation of the report that Count von WALDERSEE has refused to accept Russia's proposal to hand over the railway before England has given her consent. The difficulty over the railway seems to us to have been made far too much of. When Russia disavowed any intention of using the line for her own benefit and proposed to hand it over to Count von WALDERSEE, as there was a state of war existing in North China, the

proposal seemed reasonable, and we cannot imagine that England would have made any objection, Count von WALDERSEE being the Allies' Generalissimo. The report as to handing the line over "to the Germans" can only be treated as a misconception. But if the state of war is now at an end, there is no reason why the Shanhaikwan-Newchwang line should not revert to its owners, who, moreover, seem to have a strong claim for compensation from the Russians, if, as is alleged, the plant and material has been completely removed during the Russian occupation. The southern section of the railway can but remain in the hands of the Allies until the Chinese Government is able to take it over. The whole affair of the northern railways has been extremely unsatisfactory to British pride, but it must be remembered that it was entirely due to the supineness and indecision of the British authorities that matters went as they did. The Russians were ably advised and commanded, the British were not, and the consequence was that Russia, with the additional advantage of overwhelming numerical superiority, was able to do what we could not and would not. We trust that the railway question will soon be satisfactorily settled; but it will not be due to our naval and military authorities if it is.

MALARIA PREVENTION.

(Daily Press, 15th January.)

Sir MICHAEL FOSTER's memorandum on malaria-prevention, issued with the approval of the President of the Royal Society and despatched by the Colonial Office at home to local authorities here, does not advocate any measure which we have not had advocated by experts already. It merely recapitulates the familiar recommendations in brief form. Nevertheless they are recommendations which cannot be too often made so long as people persistently neglect them. Prevention of malaria may be secured, says the memorandum, by avoiding the bites of all mosquitoes, by avoiding sleeping or living near native huts in regions favourable for malaria, and by preventing malarious persons from being bitten by mosquitoes; and also by diminishing the number of mosquitoes. Passing over the question whether malaria can be otherwise conveyed than by the bite of the anopheles mosquito—a question which will probably continue to agitate the minds of researchers for some time yet to come, although the great majority of medical men are now ranged on the side of the theory which tends to attribute malaria to the mosquito alone—we may note that the ability to obey these rules for the avoidance of malaria is very different in different cases. Every European, it is to be presumed, can live in rooms protected by gauzes to the windows and doors, and certainly adequate mosquito-curtains under which to sleep are within his reach. But he cannot thereby absolutely "avoid all bites by mosquitoes"—this is indeed a counsel of perfection. Also the sleeping or living near native huts in regions favourable for malaria cannot be avoided by all. In Hongkong this is possible, but in Kowloon and the New Territory it is obviously not so at present in all cases. The police are practically compelled by the necessities of their work to remain in places where the conditions are now as bad as they were once in Hongkong, when the island bore such an evil name for malarial fever. Time alone can alter the conditions of our possession on the mainland, as it has altered those on the island. It is to be noted that of the fifty-one deaths due to malarial fever last month no less than seventeen (Chinese) come

under the heading "Kaulung District—Land Population." The third rule in Sir MICHAEL FOSTER's memorandum advises preventing malarious persons from being bitten by mosquitoes. Among the Chinese this is clearly a task absolutely beyond our control; among foreigners it can only be done (and then only within the limits of human power) with the full co-operation of the sufferer, who must be taught that he is suffering from a dangerous malady which may endanger the life of his fellows. The prevalence of the scourge in the past has, it cannot be doubted, been largely due to the unscientific neglect with which it has been treated. The absolute want of method of the past has now given place to a definite plan of campaign, from which the experts expect great results. As far as their schemes are practicable they are admirable; but their application to existing conditions are, as has been seen, difficult and in cases actually impossible as yet. The stamping out of the breeding-pools, which has long been advocated, is progressing as cultivation advances. The isolation of malarious persons, so as to avoid their contact with mosquitoes, can only be possible by a far stricter treatment of the fever than has ever been accorded to it. But as far as foreigners are concerned, it is within our power to protect them more and more from danger as time goes on, if they will bestir themselves to aid in the task.

THE QUESTION OF CHINA'S REPARATION.

(Daily Press, 18th January.)

Mr. JOSEPH WALTON, M.P., raised an interesting point when, in his amendment to the address in the House of Commons last month, he moved the addition of the words:—"We further humbly submit that no demand should be made on the Chinese Government for the punishment of Chinese officials which would not be equally imposed in the case of a European Power, and also that reparation should be sought in increased facilities to trade rather than by a money indemnity." The new Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Viscount CRANBORNE, to whom fell the lot of answering Mr. WALTON, expressed the opinion that this was asking too much. He continued:—"If the Chinese Government are to be treated like a European Power they must behave as a European Power. We know perfectly well that they have committed the greatest outrage, and in a manner which no European Power would think of for a moment. I refer to the fact that they have absolutely ignored the sacred character of diplomatic envoys and have, in a time of peace, allowed the Imperial forces of the Chinese Government to unite with rebels in order to bombard the envoys of friendly Powers. That is not behaving like a European Power, and it is quite impossible to treat a Government which behaves like that upon the same footing on which a European Power would naturally be treated. I think that the European Powers are well advised to exact just and due reparation for the wrong which we have sustained. If the Chinese Government expect to be treated in any other way they must behave differently." No one will dispute Lord CRANBORNE's contention as to the advisability of exacting just and due reparation for the wrongs sustained, and in so doing the Allies will not be treating the Chinese Government differently from any European Power under similar circumstances. But the mover of the amendment and his supporters were right when they advocated increased

facilities for trade rather than a money indemnity as the best reparation possible. A certain money indemnity is necessary. This cannot be disputed; but as we have claimed all through the present troubles the right line of policy is not to draw an enormous sum from the Chinese people in continuance of the old and ineffective policy hitherto pursued by foreign Powers in their dealings with China, but to teach the Government and people of the empire alike that the time has gone past when they can maintain their attitude of exclusiveness towards and superiority over the rest of the world. It is by putting intercourse, more particularly commercial intercourse, between the Powers and China upon a rational footing that this is to be achieved, and Lord CRANBORNE, while fixing his attention on the words about not treating China differently from any European Power, glided over the really important point. For this the framer of the amendment is himself much to blame by the unfortunate phrasing which he adopted. It was perhaps with some idea of this that Mr. WALTON ultimately withdrew his amendment.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 10th January, 8.11 p.m.

Tientsin telegraphs that the latest news from Peking is to the effect that the terms presented by the Powers are still unsigned owing to the second refusal of the Emperor to sanction them.

SHANGHAI, 13th January, 10.30 p.m.

The latest news to hand is that the Court has accepted the Allies' terms. Chang Chih-tung withdraws his objections. Liu Kung-yi's criticisms are fairly reasonable, and he puts no serious obstacle in the way of the acceptance of the terms.

The Taotai here promises the return of Kung Chao, the young Reformer who was illegally arrested in Shanghai, to the Mixed Court's jurisdiction.

SHANGHAI, 14th January, 10 p.m.

Prince Su, the Emperor's young brother, has offered to proceed to Berlin to apologise to Germany for the murder of Baron von Ketteler.

The date of the Emperor's return from Hsianfu to Peking is uncertain.

The famine in Shensi province affects no less than five millions of people.

SHANGHAI, 16th January, 0 a.m.

Yuan Shikai has been ordered to Peking to assist in the peace discussion. He probably declines.

As a result of the serious charges brought by Liu Kung-yi, the Empress Dowager has degraded Lu Chuan-lin a few steps.

The island of Celebes, in the Dutch East Indies, has the distinction of being the home of the smallest living representative of the wild cattle, or, indeed, of the wild cattle of any period of the earth's history. Its height at the shoulder is only about 3ft. 3in., whereas that of the great Indian wild ox, or gaur, is at least 6ft. 4in., and may, according to some writers, reach as much as 7ft. In fact, the anoa is really not much, if at all, larger than a well-grown Southdown sheep. In its young state and during middle life, the anoa is covered with a fairly thick coat of somewhat woolly hair, which is at first yellowish-brown, but eventually becomes dark brown or blackish. In common with other Asiatic buffaloes, the hair is reversed along the middle line of the neck and back as far as the haunches, that is to say, the tips are directed towards the head instead of towards the tail. It passes most of its time in thick forests in the neighbourhood of water.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

On Thursday afternoon, 17th inst., a meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held. The President (the Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Director of Public Works) occupied the chair, and there were also present, the Vice-President, the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Bell (Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer), Mr. J. McKie, Dr. Hartigan, Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

A NEW MEMBER.

The PRESIDENT announced that he had received a letter from the Colonial Secretary stating that His Excellency the Governor had appointed Lieut.-Col. Hughes, R.A.M.C., to be a member of the Sanitary Board in place of Lieut.-Col. Brown resigned.

THE ANOPHELES POOLS AT KENNEDYTOWN.

The following letter, dated January 9th, from the Colonial Secretary, was submitted:—

"In reply to your letter No. 173 of the 23rd November, enquiring what steps the Government propose to take with a view to the abolition of the anopheles pools in the immediate neighbourhood at Kennedytown, I am directed to inform you that an overseer of the Public Works Department accompanied Dr. Young to Kennedytown on the 21st ultimo, and that as the result of their inspection men of the Public Works Department were set to work on the 8th inst. and are now filling up the hollows pointed out by Dr. Young in the neighbourhood to which you refer."

The following minutes were appended:—

Dr. Hartigan:—"I visited the Kennedytown premises on Jan. 4th, when not one of these pools had been touched. It seems a pity the work could not have been done whilst Dr. Young was in the colony to supervise. The Inspector who accompanied Dr. Young is not, I am informed, the person in charge of the work."

The Hon. F. H. May:—"Has Dr. Hartigan read Professor Koch's report on malaria and its prevention?"

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby:—"It is not possible to collect coolies, lime, cement, overseers, etc., during the holidays. Dr. Young only explained what he wanted on Saturday evening, the 22nd December. Men were sent to the work as soon as it was possible to do so."

Dr. HARTIGAN stated that at a previous meeting Dr. Bell said Dr. Thomson had been commissioned to act as Medical Officer for mosquitoes and would report from time to time. He should like to ask if Dr. Thomson was doing the work.

Dr. BELL said he did not think Dr. Hartigan had a right to ask him a question directly, and if it was an official question he could not answer it unless he had permission. He stated what Dr. Thomson had been set aside to do. Whether he was doing it or not, he could not say. If the Board wrote in officially they would get an official answer.

Dr. HARTIGAN said he happened to know that Dr. Thomson could not have been doing the work for the simple reason that he met him going about his every-day work. Continuing, Dr. Hartigan said:—"On December 6th, I moved that the Government be asked to detail a subordinate officer who should be instructed in the manner of recognising and dealing with anopheles pools. Both Dr. Young and Dr. Thomson, who were then carrying out the anti-malarial measures in this colony, were willing if so directed to teach one of the Inspectors of our own Department or one of the Road Surveyors of the P.W.D. the details of the work. The P.C.M.O., in explaining his reasons for not supporting my proposition, with whose object he was in complete accord, said: "This matter had been engaging the attention of the Government for some months past," and he went on to say that "in view of the appointment of Dr. Thomson as special medical officer he did not see the necessity for another man." Major Brown likewise did not vote with me, because the Government themselves intended to do at once so much more than I asked for. Mr. Fung Wa Chuen privately expressed himself as taking the same view, so that not one of these three members opposed my motion *per se*, and two at least were strong supporters of the necessity of carry-

ing out anti-malarial measures, as repeatedly urged upon us by the Colonial Office. The President and Vice-President being non-believers would not, I presume, have supported me under any circumstances. Now, sir, what is our present position? Dr. Thomson's appointment announced "by authority" with so much gusto, is a myth. Dr. Young, who was promised, but never given, an officer to instruct, has left the colony. A medical man may have been requisitioned from home whose work will be in the laboratory and in no way to replace that of "the medical officer for mosquitoes," whose duties would be eminently practical, and who in any case cannot arrive here for some months, and the measures which the Secretary of State, supported by the most eminent scientists in the United Kingdom, has requested us to put in force are either utterly neglected or left to be carried out haphazard by the careless Chinese coolie under the ignorant (because uninstructed) supervision of a subordinate officer of the P.W.D. This description is not exaggerated, though it may appear so. The P.C.M.O. told us on Dec. 6th that this matter had been engaging the attention of the Government for some months past. On Dec. 10th, by special request, Dr. Young sent in a report on the Kennedytown Nullah. Certain pools, quite small and easily dealt with, were pointed out as the "foci" of disease: these were to be immediately filled up. On Jan. 4th, accompanied by Dr. Young, I examined these pools, and found them swarming with anopheles, and except clearing away some of the brushwood and leaving much actually overhanging the worst pool, nothing had been done. A few days ago another infected nullah, that near the Nethersole Hospital, was being "cured" in this manner. Two pools were filled up with mud—which it would be a mockery to call chun-nam, and which was certainly not lime—to be washed out by the first shower, and lest this should not suffice, a broken water-pipe was making fresh pools for the evicted anopheles to harbour in. A leading citizen, whose house and property lie in the West District, and whose servants suffered severely from malaria traced to infection from anopheles, after five months correspondence with the Government is told that all his ills come from leaving broken tea-pots in his garden, and that the Government can do nothing for him, although, mark you, the infected mosquitoes were found in the public nullah and in pools made by the broken and diseased Pokfulam conduit and its overflows. I have given these examples because I can personally vouch for their accuracy. *Ex uno disce omnes.* If the campaign against malaria is being carried out in the east of the colony in a similar manner it can only end in failure, bring discredit on carefully thought out plans—whose efficacy have been in great measure proved—and, in Major Ronald Ross's words addressing the London Art Club on this subject, "allow the murder still to continue." The *British Medical Journal*, speaking on the support given by Lord Lister to the Mosquito Malarial theory, says "The frank acceptance of the theory by so great a master will do much to insure its general acceptance and to hurry on the practical measures it so plainly indicates." It further says: "Most men when they get on in years, although they may retain their capacity for original work in their special line, lose the catholic faculty of assimilating or even comprehending new ideas, or of appreciating fresh developments." Our chief civil and military authorities have followed the noble example of Lord Lister and adopted the new theory, and the work at the Sanatorium is an example of their desire to carry out the logical consequences of their convictions, but unfortunately others of our local Legislature, whose wishes have apparently to be consulted, have allowed their better judgment to be clouded by the obscure vapourings of an uninformed and splenetic convalescent yclept "Visitor" and pronounce all efforts rubbish. As my words or opinions will have little weight or effect on them, I would recommend a perusal of the article in the October *Quarterly* and Major Ross's address to the London Art Society, both, though semi-scientific, written for the laity in plain simple language, within the average capacity of the most ordinary school-boy, which when they have digested, the facts contained therein will prove convincing. I believe that good can be done by

carrying out the measures thereby indicated. I think it is our duty to support the Secretary of State in his efforts to stamp out malaria in the colonies, and I know that notwithstanding His Excellency's expressed views and opinions or the example of the work being done by the military and a private firm at Quarry Bay, little or nothing effective is being done by the Civil Authorities. As the matter is urgent, for the rainy season, when nothing can be done, will soon be on us, I beg to move:—"That the Government be requested to secure at once the services of a properly qualified man to act as assistant M.O.H., who can, *inter alia*, attend to the malarious swamps and pools in that portion of the colony which is under the jurisdiction of the Sanitary Board. Dr. Thomson might be seconded for this duty and his place taken by a military doctor, or vice versa. Where there's a will there's always a way."

Mr. OSBORNE, in seconding said it had been very clearly put before them in what way their duty lay, and even though this mosquito theory might prove to be fallacious, they would have done their duty in pushing it to the end, and that was what they were there to do.

Dr. BELL said he did not think it was quite correct to say that Dr. Thomson had not done any work. It was only in the last week's *Gazette* that particulars as to a collection of anopheles made by him were given, and he was still doing work. He added that he believed in the theory that mosquitoes gave malaria, but how that malaria was to be prevented was quite a different question, and fifty thousand reports from Lord Lister and others, who had never seen a mosquito except a dead one in the British Museum, were absolutely useless. We were in the tropics and knew what mosquitoes were. When he first saw this theory proved he said that in a week they would have no malaria, and he put something to that effect on paper, he was sorry to say, because he had since thought the matter out very carefully and had listened to people on all sides. They could get any amount of information on this subject from anybody in the colony, right down to a rickshaw coolie. He had come to the conclusion that there was very little known of the mosquito. They knew nothing about his life history. They did not know how far he flew, somebody told them he could fly 500 yards. He found that it had been proved that he could fly 1,000 yards, and he was quite prepared to be told that he could fly 2,000. Until they knew all about the mosquito and his life history he did not think they would know how to stop malaria. To put down all the mosquitoes was a gigantic order. Think of the thousands and millions of them, and to put them down would mean an enormous amount of work. He did not see the necessity for having another medical man. If they wanted these pools stopped any man from the Public Works Department could stop them.

The PRESIDENT said that before putting this motion he must say a few words in defence of the Public Works Department, at which most of the remarks made by Dr. Hartigan, or at least the greater part of them, were addressed. In the first place, he wished to most emphatically deny that he had ever in any way obstructed the carrying-out of the works recommended by Dr. Young, and it was absolutely untrue to say that he had done so. He had been most anxious to carry out the work as a Government officer, and in the way H.E. the Governor had desired, and as he had already said, it was absolutely untrue that he, as head of the Public Works Department, was not doing his work. As to what Dr. Young's requirements were, he first asked that the nullahs at Kennedytown should be drained. That matter required some explanation and a little correspondence, as he (the speaker) in his knowledge of engineering, had never heard of a natural water course being drained. Dr. Young then explained that he wanted it drained, and an officer from the Public Works Department was sent to survey these nullahs and prepare an estimate. When this work had been going on for perhaps a week, and the officer had sent in an estimate of something like \$8,000 for the clearing away of these pools, Dr. Young said he did not want that—he wanted to have the pools filled up. The President, continuing, said he then wrote and asked if Dr. Young would be

good enough to point out the particular pools and their locality. Dr. Young wrote back and asked to be supplied with a map for the purpose of marking out the pools. The map was sent him, and in his own time he came to the office of the Director of Public Works and explained his ideas on the matter. An officer was sent—an intelligent officer—to accompany Dr. Young, and both of them went over the nullah ground at Kennedytown. As the result of this, Dr. Young indicated the position of half-a-dozen pools he wanted filled up. These pools, the officer reported, could be filled by the simple expedient of kicking some dirt into them, and, in cases where breeding-places were found amongst broken pottery, and so on, that breeding-place was destroyed by merely turning the pottery upside down. It seemed to him, went on the speaker, that Dr. Young then realised what others had since realised—to do away with all pools in which mosquitoes breed was practically impossible. With regard to the "leading resident" in the West End, he had certainly written a great deal to the Government. If all that was required was a pailful of limewash, why did "leading resident" not do it himself, especially when it meant the expenditure of only a few dollars. Finally, the mover of the motion had implied that he (the President) was a disbeliever in the mosquito-malaria theory. He had never said so, and it had, in fact been proved that the theory was a correct one.

The motion was then put to the Board, and carried.

THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENT.

The Hon. F. H. MAY, pursuant to notice, moved:—"That the Board appoint a sub-committee to draw up a scheme of sanitary improvements of the City of Victoria."

Mr. OSBORNE, in seconding, said—At our last meeting I proposed and the Board adopted a resolution to the effect that we were not disposed to formulate a comprehensive scheme of sanitary improvement unless the Government, who had asked for it, gave some assurance that our recommendations or at least some of them would be acted upon, therefore in seconding Mr. May's proposal I desire to explain the apparent inconsistency of my supporting to day what we practically refused to do a fortnight ago. The resolution of last meeting was brought forward with a view to place on record and bring to the notice of Government the feelings of the Board in regard to what we or the Majority of us consider to be the indifferent treatment which our recommendations in the past have as a rule met with—We do not for one moment imagine that our suggestions, however excellent, are in every case either practicable or politic. But what we expect and have a right to expect is that we shall not be met with blank refusal and if for financial or other reasons Government cannot see its way to give effect to our suggestions we consider we and the Public whom we represent, are entitled to the courtesy of an explanation—And most of all we feel that, when the Board recommends some minor reform where the question of expense cannot apply, as for instance the removal of the Cricket ground urinal, our recommendation should not be cast aside simply because it does not meet with the approval of some individual member of Government. Our Board Meetings should be something more than mere opportunities for academical discussion, and I think we may hope in course of time to effect considerable improvement in the health of the Colony and the consequent welfare of its people provided Government will accord us the support and encouragement which we consider to be due to the great object for which we work. For this reason therefore I beg to second Mr. May's proposal.

On the suggestion of the PRESIDENT a sub-committee was appointed, consisting of the Hon. F. H. May, Mr. Osborne, Dr. Clark, and Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Dr. Hartigan expressed his inability to serve.

OPEN SPACES ON PRAYA EAST.

The Hon. F. H. MAY had given notice of his intention to move:—"That before the conditions for provision of open spaces around buildings on the proposed reclamation in front of Praya East be settled, they be referred to the Board for their consideration and advice."

This motion was withdrawn the Hon. F. H. MAY observing that it was hardly ripe for discussion.

THE WATER SUPPLY OF THE COLONY.

On the motion of Dr. HARTIGAN seconded by Mr. FUNG WA CHUN, the following resolution was carried:—"That the Government be asked to furnish the Board periodically with a copy of the Government Analyst's monthly report on the condition of the water supply of the colony."

The PRESIDENT said there would not be the slightest difficulty about this.

SUGGESTED ALTERATION TO DRAINAGE BYE-LAW NO. 18.

The following letter, dated Jan. 14th, from Mr. J. J. Bryan, Sanitary Surveyor, was submitted:—

"Bye-law 18 of the Drainage Bye-laws requires that "any drain passing under a building shall, whenever possible, be laid in one straight line." Now that all buildings must be provided with yards, it will always be possible to so design the drain that no change of direction will be required inside a building, and I beg to suggest, therefore, that the words "whenever possible" be deleted from Bye-law 18. The Local Government Bye-laws which are in force generally throughout England read: "No drain conveying sewage must pass under a building unless no other mode of construction is practicable. In that case it must be laid in a direct line for the whole distance beneath the house." My reasons for suggesting this are that when a manhole is built inside a house there is a danger of drain air entering the house, as I have proved by using the smoke test. I have also occasionally found the cover to the manhole removed, and the place used as a receptacle for refuse."

The following minutes were appended:—

Dr. Hartigan:—"The last paragraph of Mr. Bryan's letter is the most important. Where manholes have been used as receptacles for refuse prosecutions of occupiers should follow. This is one example of the way many Chinese abuse sanitary improvements."

Mr. Fung Wa Chun:—"Nothing is to be gained by deleting the words 'whenever possible,' as it would probably lead to a deadlock in exceptional cases."

Mr. Osborne:—"The suggestion is a good one."

Dr. Clark:—"I thoroughly agree with the Surveyor."

On the motion of Dr. CLARK, seconded by Dr. BELL, the proposed amendment was approved.

HOUSES WHICH DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE ORDINANCE.

A letter dated January 14th was submitted from Mr. J. J. Bryan, Sanitary Surveyor, with reference to six houses which have been built in New Street on the site formerly occupied by a school and one house. A certificate had been applied for, and he recommended that the same be withheld, and the owner informed that the houses could not be occupied until they were so constructed as to comply with the Ordinance.

The suggestion of the Sanitary Surveyor was agreed to.

THE PROPOSED CATTLE-DESTRUCTOR.

Correspondence was submitted regarding a proposed cattle-destructor, and the following minutes were appended:—

Dr. Clark:—"What the Board wants and what they have asked for repeatedly is a refuse-destructor, not a cattle-destructor. The fuel for the destruction of one carcass will cost from \$10 to \$15, while with a refuse destructor these carcasses can be destroyed without any other fuel than that furnished by the city refuse."

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby:—"I disagree entirely with you as to the latter part of your minute. I believe our refuse would not burn without a large consumption of coal. Please pass this to the Secretary with plan and specification for circulation. I am in favour of asking Government to order only these crematory furnaces now. It is better to spend £115 on what you yourself have more than once described as an experiment than \$60,000."

Dr. Clark:—"It is not correct to say that I have ever described the proposed refuse-destructor as an experiment. I have explained so frequently that the number of cells required can only be ascertained by experience, but that the utility of a refuse destructor is unquestioned, that it ought not to be necessary to repeat it. The D. P. W. is clearly opposed to the erection

of a refuse-destroyer for some unknown reason, and it is therefore unfair to attribute all the delay to the Public Works Committee of the Council, as was done at last Board's meeting. We have heard a lot about the failure of a destructor in one town in India out of the many thousands that have been erected and have not proved failures, but the Board have never been furnished with any information whatever as to this largely quoted failure. Where is it? Who says it was a failure? and what reasons are given? Has it been abandoned or improved so as to become a success?"

Dr. Hartigan:—"If the M.O.H. is correct in stating that refuse can be destroyed without any other fuel than that furnished by the city refuse, it seems waste of money to get this cattle crematorium. I think local information should be sought on this point, as the main cause of opposition to the destructor seems to be that it will require large quantities of some combustible, owing to the nature of the Hongkong refuse."

Mr. Osborne:—"If the Government give us a cattle crematorium well and good, but what we want and were promised is a refuse-destroyer, and we must not agree to accept in lieu of it a cattle-crematorium merely because the cremation of diseased pigs happens for the moment to be a pressing matter."

Dr. Clark:—"Mr. Crook went thoroughly into the question of the combustion of our refuse, and came to the conclusion that it would burn in a refuse-destroyer without fuel. See his report of December, 1898, laid on table of Legislative Council."

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby:—"If there was no other way of getting rid of refuse except by burning, a refuse-destroyer would be a necessity, but there are in my opinion better ways, and I see little objection to our present system, which can, however, be improved on."

The PRESIDENT said the Board had seen the estimate which was sent to them by the firm which they were recommended to by the Shanghai Municipality to communicate with. The firm in question said they would furnish them with the iron-work in connection with the furnace for burning the cattle at a cost of £115 delivered in Hongkong, the brick-work to be supplied locally. He had not gone into it, but evidently the whole cost would not be more than \$2,000 or \$3,000. The question of getting rid of the carcasses of cattle had become a very serious one. Sooner or later they must provide facilities for the burning of carcasses. It had also been represented that during plague time the want of a small crematorium for getting rid of clothing and other articles which had to be destroyed was very much needed. This was not a costly thing, and with this crematorium they could make experiments as to the burning of the refuse of the city. He had been accused in the minutes of opposing the introduction of a refuse-destroyer without giving any reasons. It would have been fairer and simpler to have asked him first if he was opposed to the scheme, and if so for what reasons. He might say that he was waiting to see sufficiently strong reasons advanced for abandoning the present system. They had a working system for scavenging the city, and as the work was generally acknowledged to be well done the onus of showing reasons for abandoning the present system and launching out into large expenditure on another method of disposing of the city refuse lay with the advocates of the proposal. He might content himself by saying "Leave well enough alone." But he was quite willing to make a few remarks here on the subject, and give his reasons for what they were worth. His reasons for sticking to the present system were—firstly he believed the returning to the soil of all vegetable and other refuse removed from the streets and gutters was the correct and most economical system. Secondly, he looked to the situation of the city. The city might be said to extend from Causeway Bay on the east to Kennedytown on the west, a distance of four and a half miles, and the average depth was not more than three-eighths of a mile. There were steep gradients leading to the harbour. No great accumulation of refuse was necessary; it was only a case of multiplying dust-carts. The third reason in favour of the present system was that they had a poor barren country on the opposite side of the Harbour

with extensive reclamation on the fore-shore in progress. It was the very place for dumping and burying rubbish. One reason advanced against the present system was that the refuse of the city was frequently thrown overboard from the dust boats. He did not believe that that was done to any great extent, and no doubt it could be stopped by greater vigilance. Now for the reasons against the refuse destructor. He differed from Mr. Crook in that he did not believe that their refuse could be burned without a large consumption of coal. Then there was the large initial expense. Mr. Crook explained to the Public Works Committee that the \$60,000 he proposed expending would only provide for about one-third of the city refuse. In some way the explanation of which he forgot, Mr. Crook expressed the opinion that \$120,000 would provide for all; but the M. O. H. would, he thought, tell them that for all this expenditure there would be no decrease in the present cost of collecting and removing the rubbish from the streets. Then where was the destructor to be? One site was selected at Kennedytown. How were they to get the refuse there—by land or by water? If by land would their streets be improved by the passage of strings of dust carts throughout the length of the city. If by water, there came in here the double-handling of the stuff—first down as now to the dust-boats; then unloading again and carrying up to the destructor. His position in regard to this question was this: he was not convinced, nor had any arguments been put before him to convince him, that any advantage would accrue to the city by the introduction of a refuse destructor or destructors at a cost of from \$60,000 to \$120,000 and until he was so convinced he would not in his responsible position advise the Government to embark in a very costly scheme which might be an utter failure. He was open to argument. Let those who cried out for a refuse-destroyer as a sort of panacea for all the ills in Hongkong prove their case by reference to other cities which had introduced the system and benefited thereby in a lessened death-rate, cleaner streets, or any other way. He knew towns where all the refuse, as well as all the night-soil, went into the ground in the near vicinity and which were remarkable for their clean well-kept streets, and for their healthiness and low death-rate, and he saw no reason why Hongkong should not deal with its refuse in the same way. In conclusion he moved:—"That the Government be asked to call on the Director of Public Works to submit an estimate for a cattle crematorium such as that shown on plans and described in the specification lately obtained from Messrs. Goddard, Massey, and Warner, and provide the funds necessary in the supplementary estimate for the current year."

THE HON. F. H. MAY seconded.

On the motion of Mr. OSBORNE, seconded by Dr. CLARK, an amendment to the motion was carried, adding to it the words:—"In recommending this cattle-destroyer, the Board are still of opinion that a refuse-destroyer is also necessary."

THE SALE OF PORK OUTSIDE THE MARKETS.

A petition relative to the sale of fresh pork outside the precincts of the markets of the colony from the lessees of stalls in the markets, wherein they carry on the trade of fresh pork, was submitted. The petition, which was addressed to His Excellency the Governor, said:—

"That recently it is found that fresh pork is sold in all parts of the colony and the grant of these licences is a great ruin to the business of the markets, which gets dull day by day—so dull that your petitioners are afraid they will not be able to get on with their business. That your petitioners sincerely pray that your Excellency will take pity on them by prohibiting the sale of pork outside the markets by reducing the rents of the stalls or by allowing them to sell outside the markets."

In a minute submitted by him, Mr. Ladds (Colonial Veterinary Surgeon) said the number of licences issued for the sale of fresh pork outside the markets at present amounts to 33, and if the licensee only sold two pigs a day each it would naturally make a considerable difference to the takings of the pork stall-holders in the Markets. After over 13 years' experience in control of the food supply of the colony he

was strongly of opinion that the present market accommodation for the sale of meat of any kind is sufficient to meet all requirements, and therefore he hoped the Government would reconsider its present policy, and cancel the outside licences already issued."

The following minutes were appended:—

Dr. Hartigan:—"It is evident there is no supervision over these outside pork shops and much irregularity seems to ensue. Either these shops should be properly supervised or closed. What was the original reason for licensing them?"

Dr. Clark:—"Put up temporary mat-shed markets on vacant lots of crown land and do away with all these shop licenses. Further market accommodation is urgently needed to check the present exorbitant price of food."

Dr. Bell:—"No licenses for selling food (fresh) outside of markets should be granted."

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby:—"If all the market stalls are let and there is competition for them when vacant, then there is not sufficient market accommodation, and outside shops should be licensed. If reasonably near the markets I do not see why they cannot be supervised."

The Hon. F. H. MAY explained that the licensing of these places outside the markets for the sale of fresh meat was his doing. It arose at the time when the question of the high price of meat was discussed, and it was suggested that they should license these places outside the markets so as to relieve the enormous pressure on the markets. There was not a single stall in the markets in the city vacant at the present moment.

On the motion of Dr. CLARK, seconded by Dr. HARTIGAN, it was decided to recommend the Government to allow the present shop licenses for the sale of meat to expire and that they erect at as early a date as possible temporary mat-shed markets on vacant spaces on crown land where they are urgently needed, and also that the Government should rent shops outside the markets to be let for the sale of meat.

THE PREVENTION OF MALARIA.

A copy of the measures recommended to be taken by Sir Michael Foster, K.C.B., F.R.S., and approved by Lord Lister, President of the Royal Society, was submitted.

The memorandum runs as follows:—

Malaria (ague, intermittent fever) is due to the presence in the blood (in the corpuscles of the blood) of a minute organism. An attack of the fever is coincident with, and due to an active phase of, this organism; it then multiplies in a remarkable manner. Between the attacks the organism is quiescent and dormant; it may remain so for a long time.

Recent researches have shown that, at least in the vast majority of cases, probably in all cases, the organism is introduced into the blood, and thus the disease contracted, by the bite of a mosquito, generally, if not always, one species or other of the genus known as anopheles. The anopheles bites a malarious person, i.e. a person whose blood contains the organism, and sucks up with the blood the organism. This organism develops and increases in the body of the anopheles, and there produces germs which pass into the salivary glands and proboscis of the insect. Hence when the mosquito bites another person, it introduces the organism into the blood of that person and so starts the disease.

Every individual anopheles is not necessarily infected with the organism, but in a district where malaria occurs the probability is very great of any anopheles being so infected.

Hence malaria, in the vast majority of cases, probably all cases, may be prevented by preventing oneself from being bitten by an infected anopheles.

Prevention may be secured—

1. By avoiding all bites of mosquitoes.

(a.) By living in rooms to which the entrance of mosquitoes is completely shut off by thin meshed gauzes to windows, doors, &c.

(b.) By sleeping under adequate mosquito curtains—the anopheles generally bites in the night or evening.

2. By avoiding sleeping or living near native huts in regions favourable for malaria. All though the natives become acclimatized to the disease as they grow up, and the adults do not suffer from malaria, the organism is very frequent in the blood of native children, and anopheles in or near native huts are very com-

monly infected. Hence anyone who sleeps in or even near native quarters runs the risk of being bitten by an infected anopheles and of catching malaria.

3. By preventing malarious persons from being bitten by mosquitoes. A non-infected anopheles is harmless; it is only when it has fed on blood of a malarious person it can propagate malaria.

The above are the most important means of prevention, but much may be done by diminishing the number of anopheles. These very frequently breed in small pools, and puddles of water on the ground—puddles mostly of a fairly permanent description, kept filled by the rain and not liable to scouring out during heavy showers. Hence, if these pools are filled up or otherwise abolished, the number of anopheles may be largely diminished, and the chance of infection correspondingly lessened.

The increase of anopheles is also diminished by pouring kerosene, &c., on their breeding pools.

These measures should not be neglected, but the most important steps are:—

1. To avoid sleeping or living near native huts or other haunts of malaria-infected anopheles.

2. To avoid being bitten by infected mosquitoes, which is best effected by avoiding all mosquito bites.

The following minutes were appended:—

Dr. Hartigan:—Perhaps the President and Vice-president will now alter their views on this subject since the non-scientific local medical men are supported by such well-known scientists as Lord Lister and Sir Michael Foster.

The Hon. F. H. May:—"On the other hand read Professor Koch on this subject."

Dr. Bell—I do not think this report adds much to our knowledge.

Professor Koch's views on malarial fever will be seen from the following extract from the *London Daily Mail* of the 19th November:—

Berlin, 16th November.

"Professor Koch delivered a lecture yesterday evening at a meeting of the Berlin Charlotenburg section of the Colonial Society upon the results of the expedition sent out to investigate the nature of malarial fever. Professor Koch described the investigations which he and his colleagues had made in Italy, in Java, and in New Guinea. As the result of these investigations, he had come to the conclusion that though the developed parasite, the cause of the fever, was introduced into the human body by gnat bites, yet the permanent home of the parasite germs was in the human body itself. The germs were passed by the gnat from one person to another and were developed in the body of the gnat during the passage. In combating the disease, it was therefore necessary to begin with the persons affected and not with the gnats.

"Children were especially liable to the disease. Prof. Koch stated that in New Guinea, in all the places where malaria was prevalent, all the younger children suffered more or less seriously from it. At a village called Stephansont, where 137 inhabitants out of 700 were affected by the fever, they had all been cured by the use of quinine. The new-born infants were made the subject of special attention, and it was found possible to keep them in good health, although it had hitherto been impossible to rear children at Stephansont. Discussing the methods which had been suggested for combating the disease, Prof. Koch said that he regarded the proposal to exterminate gnats as impracticable. Mosquito nets were useful, but not absolutely to be relied upon. All attempt to secure immunity from malarial fever by means of inoculation had hitherto failed. Preventive treatment by quinine had had great value, but was not always practicable. He urged that the Colonial authorities should supply quinine free of charge and that doctors trained in microscopic work should be sent to New Guinea and to German South West Africa. At the conclusion of Prof. Koch's address, which was received with hearty applause, a short speech was made by Geheimrath Professor Gerhardt in recognition of the work done by the expedition."

THE RECENT OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE IN EGYPT.
A report on plague in Egypt from May, 1899, to July, 1900, was submitted.

Dr. Clark minuted:—"I have carefully read this report and agree entirely with the conclusions arrived at; in fact they are the same that I have urged since 1895. I have marked in blue pencil one or two points of special importance."

CHOLERA IN SINGAPORE.

The Acting Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements, in a letter dated the 20th December, said that since the 12th to the 19th December (both days inclusive) 34 cases of cholera were reported in Singapore and 32 deaths.

ANALYST'S REPORT.

The report of Mr. T. J. Wild (Acting Government Analyst) for the quarter ended December 31st showed that three samples of brandy, one of milk, and four of whisky were analysed, and that all were found to be genuine with the exception of one of brandy.

LIMEWASHING RETURN.

In his limewashing return for the fortnight ended January 14th Mr. J. H. Dandy (Chief Inspector) reported that 998 houses had been limewashed in the Western District since the previous report. He added: "The period for the Western District has expired. The Inspector reports, however, that he has received over 140 notices for the Eastern District during the last few days but has not been able to visit the houses as he has been winding up the Western District: there will probably be about 200 cases against owners there for not sending notices of intention to limewash."

THE HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

The death-rate of the colony for the week ended December 29th was 17.8, against 24.2 for the previous week and 24.1 for the corresponding week last year. The rate for the succeeding week was 17.8, against 17.8 for the corresponding week last year.

On the motion of Mr. OSBORNE, seconded by Mr. FUNG WA CHUEN it was decided to raise the price to be given for rats from two cents to three cents each. It was stated that some 400 rats were being brought in per week. The number had been as high as 2,000.

DEATHS IN MACAO.

The deaths in Macao during the week ended December 30th numbered 40 and during the succeeding week 34.

This was all business.

MURDER OF A REFORMER IN GAGE STREET.

Two murders in as many days is a startling fact to have to face, but it is nevertheless an indisputable one. Following on that at Yau-mati on the 9th inst., when a marine hawk-er, presumably from motives of revenge, was done to death by means of a chopper, a second outrage, this time on the Victoria side of the harbour, was perpetrated at Gage Street on the 10th inst., when a schoolmaster, Yeung Ku Wan by name, was shot in his class-room in full view of his scholars. It appears that shortly after six o'clock, when teacher and pupils were engrossed in the studies of the day, a man suddenly entered the room, which is situated on the first floor at 52, Gage Street, and before Mr. Yeung had recovered from his surprise at the unexpected intrusion, or had time even to utter a word, the man whipped out a revolver and fired four shots in rapid succession at the unfortunate schoolmaster, who fell to the ground. Every one of the shots had taken effect, one entering the head and the others penetrating the left shoulder, chest, and abdomen. The murderer, on completing his diabolical work, turned and fled from the room, trampling over the frightened scholars who obstructed his path. According to the statements of some of the older scholars, not a word was spoken on either side, the whole affair occupying just a few seconds. Mr. Yeung's wife and two daughters, realising by the unusual sound of frightened voices and hurrying feet that something had happened, ran down to the schoolroom, and their feelings at the sight that met their eyes may well be imagined. Attracted by the shots, a Chinese constable patrolling in the vicinity made haste to the scene of the crime. A hurried examination showed that Mr. Yeung, although mortally wounded, was still breathing, and with commendable promptitude the *lukong* had him conveyed to the Government Civil Hospital.

The constable then informed the officials at the Central Police Station of the tragedy. At the hospital it was easily apparent from the first that the unfortunate man was beyond human skill—that the assassin had performed his work only too well. Mr. Yeung expired a few hours later, Dr. Bell taking his dying depositions. The murdered schoolmaster was 34 years of age, and well known to his compatriots in the colony as a political reformer. Indeed, in this fact will probably be found the motive for the crime as, apart from his political views, he was on good terms with every one. In a futile attempt to shield himself, Mr. Yeung had evidently made use of the class-book he held in his hand at the moment of being shot. One bullet had completely pierced it, while a second must have first struck it before entering the body of the victim.

The funeral took place at the Happy Valley Cemetery on Saturday afternoon last. Mr. Yeung some years ago adopted the Christian faith, and accordingly the Christian burial service was read at the grave. A very large number of the public attended.

It is believed that more than one man—probably three or four—were implicated in the murder. The man who shot Mr. Yeung gained access to the schoolroom, which usually is firmly barred, by crouching in the rear of the scholars as they entered the room, at the head of which, at his desk, his victim sat reading an English grammar-book—the one pierced by the bullets. The murderer's associates presumably kept watch, and in all probability, had the occasion arisen, would have sacrificed other lives to compass the task they had set out to accomplish. Mr. Yeung, in spite of his four wounds—any one of which, from its location, was probably sufficient to cause death—was conscious to the very end, and, as already said, gave his dying statements to Dr. Bell and Chief Detective Inspector Hanson. No arrests have yet been made, and it is believed that the men have succeeded in getting clear of the colony. They probably had a launch waiting in the harbour to convey them to a vessel lying outside, which immediately got under way for Canton; or again, they may have crossed to the New Territory and thence made their way to Samchun. In any case, doubtless they are by this time well beyond the reach of English law. It is stated that the fact of his being a reformer caused a high price to be set on the head of the murdered man, who, strange to say, fully believed that his end would be a violent one.

A reward of \$500 has been offered to any person giving evidence leading to the conviction of the murderer.

THE TURNING OF THE "CANTON RIVER."

CAPTAIN SCOTT SCORES ANOTHER TRIUMPH.

As announced by us some days ago, Captain Percy Scott, C.B., of H.M.S. *Terrible*, was appealed to and asked if he could suggest any means of floating the sunken dredger, the *Canton River*, as the Admiralty work in the Naval Yard Extension was being seriously delayed through want of dredging. Captain Scott consented to make a trial, and on Friday morning his efforts were rewarded with success, the dredger being turned on an even keel ready for floating. For the information of our readers who may be anxious to learn how the almost completed operation has been performed, we may recapitulate the information we gave a few days ago.

In the position she occupied under water, the dredger lay with her head east, 380 feet from Murray Pier. She is 180 feet long, 36 feet of beam, and 15 feet depth, of a gross weight of 1,000 tons. She was embedded in the mud about four feet forward, and her mast and derricks had been forced many feet downwards by the heavy weights attached to them, thus supporting her at an angle of 30 degrees with the surface bottom. The first step towards getting her up again was to turn her over topside up. At the after end of the dredger an anchor was thrown out in a northerly direction—that was exactly opposite to the direction it was intended to turn the vessel. The object of this was to prevent her from slipping, and to assist her to maintain her equilibrium. Three enormous tackles of 100 tons each

were taken from the *Praya* to the chains round the dredger, and anchors for these heavy strains were placed in positions about ten feet apart, so as to distribute the strain over about 90 feet of the *Praya*. On the north side there were three lifting lumps, and the combined lift and pull-over was expected to turn her. The novel feature of Capt. Scott's plan was to pump air into her from a torpedo-boat destroyer (the *Hurdy*), and so displace the water; and then, if success attended the turn-over, she would be turned round stern to the *Praya*, dragged into shallow water and then pumped out.

On Wednesday 15th, the chains were passed round the dredger, but before this could be done it was necessary to blast with gun-cotton four tunnels through the coral on which the vessel rested. This coral really saved the vessel from being totally lost, for if the bed had been entirely of mud there would have been little possibility of saving it. Air was then pumped into the dredger from the destroyer, and the tank steamer *Sabine Rickmers* was requisitioned to assist in heaving. The actual work of turning was commenced on Thursday morning, when three steam engines, manned by bluejackets on the *Praya*, commenced to do the hauling. The proceedings were watched by a large number of spectators, and at 11 a.m. the vessel had been turned seven feet. At 1 p.m. the starboard funnel was about a foot below water, and from the water the deck of the dredger could be seen to be covered with a submarine growth. In the afternoon the hauling was energetically resumed, and the crowd of spectators increased—the greatest interest being manifested—amongst those present being H.E. the Governor, Mrs. Gascoigne, Lady Bruce, Mrs. Powell and others. A large gathering watched events from the Club and other balconies in the neighbourhood. When night fell the turning operation had made very good progress, and yesterday the *Canton River* was righted, the first step toward her floating having been carried out.

Whilst the principal credit for raising the dredger must be given to Captain Scott, who devised the plans for raising the sunken vessel, the success of the operations will be also due to the able and indefatigable assistance he has received from the officers and men of his ship. The operation of pumping the air in the dredger from the *Hurdy* was carried out by Lieut. Litchfield, torpedo lieutenant of H.M.S. *Terrible*. The rigging of all the heavy tackle was done by Commander Ogilvy, and Mr. Ford, the boatswain of the *Terrible*, who worked hard, assisted by a number of bluejackets from the ship.

Now that the vessel is on an even keel it will take about a week to float her. The cost of the dredger was £45,000 and it was fully insured. It was launched in October, 1900.

H.M.S. "GLORY."

H.M.S. *Glory* arrived at Singapore on the 9th inst. and proceeded to take 900 tons of coal on board, leaving again for this port on Saturday, the 12th inst., and arriving yesterday. The *Glory* is the smartest flagship that Great Britain has ever sent to the China Station. Built by Laird's, at Birkenhead, she has cost a good million or more compared with the *Centurion*, the battleship which is the head-quarters of the present Commander-in-Chief of the China fleet. The *Glory* shows a considerable advance. She is 30 ft. longer, over 2,000 tons heavier, is better protected, and far more efficiently armed. The *Centurion's* barbette guns are of 10 in. calibre only. Those in the *Glory* are 12 in. of modern design, having a long range, and so mounted that they can be loaded in any position. This advantage is secured by having the loading chamber so constructed that it revolves with the guns. Altogether the *Glory* carries four 12 in., twelve 6 in. q.f., eighteen smaller q.f. and two light guns. She is armed with five torpedo-tubes, four of which are submarine. The *Glory* narrowly escaped a serious accident at Portsmouth recently. As she was leaving the harbour, the steam was accidentally turned off from her steering engines, and she nearly rammed the training ship *St. Vincent*, which had several hundred boys on board.

The following is the list of officers of H.M.S. *Glory*:—Captain, F. S. Inglefield; Commanders, W. B. Fawcaker, C. E. E. Carey; Lieutenants, H. Christian, F. L. Attenborough, H. G. Innes, W. W. Wilson, M. R. Best, A. R. W. Sartorius; Major R. M., R. F. Peroy; Captain R. M., P. Molloy; Chaplain, Rev. C. E. L. Cowan; Fleet Surgeon, C. E. Geoghegan; Fleet Paym., E. H. Banks; Fleet Eng., D. J. Bennett; Naval Instr., E. M. Broadbent, M.A.; Surgeons, H. Huskinson, M.B., J. G. Walli, M.B.; Assist. Paym., G. B. Keenan; Engineers, F. Pring, H. H. Ricketts; Assist. Eng., C. H. E. Taylor (temp.), E. Groves, F. J. Pedrick, (proby.), G. E. McEwen, (proby.); Gunners, W. T. Ovenden, E. Croucher, F. Groves, (act.); Boatswains, W. R. J. Harris, T. Graham; Carpenter, F. Jewel; Midshipmen, B. R. Poë, G. Blake, F. A. Sommerville, E. A. Digby, A. D. Warrington-Morris, C. E. Turle, T. K. Triggs, T. F. P. Calvert, T. S. L. Dorman, A. D. C. Cooper-Key, J. F. C. Patterson, C. V. L. Norcock, C. P. Talbot, G. H. Dennistoun; C. A. Brown; Assist. Clerks, J. H. Fenn, W. J. Sims.

THE P. & O. S.S. "BANCA."

There left the Harbour yesterday morning one of the largest cargo-carriers which has ever steamed into it—that of the P. & O. turret steamer *Banca*. She is one of the fleet set apart for the reception of freight alone, and she carries a heavier tonnage with less consumption of fuel, than any of the modern steamers under the P. & O. flag. As in the time of war the whole of the magnificent fleet could be requisitioned for, either (as was the case with the British India Steam Navigation Company during the South African and China troubles) as transports for the conveyance of troops to the seat of war, or as colliers for the supply of fuel to cruisers and battle-ships on the high seas: the *Banca* has been designed with a keen eye to both requirements, and more especially so in respect of the latter. She was built in 1899 by Messrs. W. Doxford & Son of Sunderland, and left her cradle in the waters of the Wear in November of that year, although she was not handed over to the company by the builders till last April. Her length is 440 feet, with a beam of 51 feet 6 in. and a depth of hold of 32 feet. Her engines are triple expansion, by her builders, and are capable of propelling her through the water under ordinary favourable conditions at about fourteen knots an hour. To give some idea of her size it is only necessary to state that she carries 10,800 tons measurement of cargo and 7,500 tons deadweight. Her gross registered tonnage is 5,995 and her nett tonnage 3,794 tons deadweight. Her windlass is the latest improvement of forecastle-head fittings by Clark, Chapman & Co., beneath which her crew are berthed. The forecastle is a vast improvement upon the ordinary tramp, for beyond being spacious, and over 7 feet in height, it is fitted up with iron spring bedsteads for the use of the men, both sailors and firemen. Besides her ordinary derricks for discharging cargo she carries three extra ones, two of which are capable of lifting a ten ton and the other a thirty ton weight. The derrick posts also act as ventilators to the upper and lower holds. Along the upper deck are eleven winches by Caldwell & Co. fitted with every conceivable modern appliance. In addition to the ordinary water-ballast tanks, of which there are six holding one thousand tons each, there is a specially deep one on the after side of the amidship deck which will hold two thousand tons of water for ballast purposes. Her davits are by Doxford & Son, and are filled with that firm's latest and highly successful patent for swinging the boats in and out, and she has also Lyall's Patent Brake and Buffer on her steering gear. Lord Kelvin's compasses are fitted to the bridge amidships where the captain and officers are berthed. The accommodation is rather scarce, room for cargo having been the prevailing thought throughout in the construction, and every available space is taken up with that end in view. The engineers are berthed at the fore part of the poop, and petty officers directly aft. The *Banca* is lighted throughout by electricity. There are electric

mast-head and side-lights and jets in the holds, about the decks, and in the officer's cabins.

Capt. G. W. Babot, who commands the *Banca*, is well known and respected on the China coast, he having been running for many years on the Japanese line of steamers. His officers are: 1st. Mr. H. Pye, R.N.R.; 2nd. Geo. Kelly, R.N.R.; 3rd. A. B. Macauley, R.N.R.; 4th. H. Temperley Gray, R.N.R.; 5th. Lionel Unicorn, R.N.R. The Chief Engineer is Mr. J. Lang, R.N.R.; 2nd H. McLaren; 3rd J. Harris; and 4th and 5th Thompson and Anderson respectively. A surgeon is carried in the person of Dr. Perry.

The *Banca* is discharging a general cargo from London at Kowloon, and left yesterday as already stated, for Shanghai and Japan.

THE "POWAN" IN COLLISION.

About seven o'clock on Sunday night a party of Hongkong residents who had been out shooting were returning home, and when near Capsuimoon they heard cries proceeding from a Chinaman who was drifting helplessly about in a sampan. They picked him up and brought him to Hongkong. He said he formed one of the crew of a large junk which had been sunk higher up the river through colliding with the *Powan*. It was evident that the steamer had also been considerably damaged, as a quantity of planks belonging to some such vessel as the *Powan* was floating about. The *Powan* left Hongkong at half-past five on Sunday night and was due in Canton on Monday morning. A message was sent from Hongkong to Canton, enquiring whether anything had been heard of the *Powan*, and a reply was received to the effect that the vessel had arrived with her star-board and upper works damaged.

On enquiry of the *Hankow*, which arrived from Canton on Monday afternoon, this news was confirmed. It was believed, however, that the story of the junk foundering was not correct, the *Powan* having stood by her until it had been ascertained that there was no fear of her going down. The *Powan* was to be patched up at Canton and on the passage home. On her return she was to be docked, if necessary.

Later details show that by the collision at 6.30 p.m. on the 13th instant between the steamer *Powan* and a passenger junk at Capsuimoon, one of the passengers on board the *Powan*, a Chinaman, was killed and two other Chinese passengers and two sailors slightly injured. Three of the steamer's passengers who were standing on an elevated part of the superstructure carried away by the collision were thrown into the water. They were rescued, fortunately, by a passing launch. The junk sustained considerable damage, but no one on board was injured.

Among the arrivals by the *City of Rio de Janeiro* on the 16th inst. were Rear-Admiral Beardslee and his wife, who are paying a short visit to Hongkong. Rear-Admiral Beardslee entered the U.S. Navy on March 5th, 1850, and graduated at the Navy Academy in June, 1856. He was promoted regularly through all grades, and made Rear-Admiral in 1895. During 1894-97 he was Commander-in-Chief of the naval force on the Pacific station. In April, 1863, as executive officer of the monitor *Nantucket*, he participated in the attack on Charleston, and in October of the following year took a prominent part in the capture of the Confederate steam sloop *Florida* in Bahia, Brazil, which vessel, as prize-master, he brought to the United States. To Rear-Admiral Beardslee belongs the unique honour of commanding the vessel that first took the United States flag through the Suez Canal; this he did when, in 1870, he brought the tug *Palos* to China. When commanding the U.S.S. *Jamestown* in 1879-80, he achieved greater fame by discovering, surveying, and naming Glacier Bay. On February 1st, 1898, Rear-Admiral Beardslee retired from Government service, being then 62 years of age. His marriage took place in January, 1863, a few months prior to the attack on Charleston, when he was wedded to Evelyn, daughter of Mr. Isaac Small, Little Falls, New York. Rear-Admiral Beardslee and his wife go to Manila by the U.S. transport *Garonne*, leaving here in a few days. After a brief stay there, they will return and probably spend part of the winter here.

THE TROUBLE ON BOARD H.M.S. "BARFLEUR."

COURT MARTIAL.

A court martial was held on board H.M.S. *Terrible* on Tuesday for the purpose of enquiring into certain charges brought against William H. Rice, a leading seaman on H.M.S. *Barfleur*, the charges against him being that he had committed—(1) an act to the prejudice of good order and naval discipline in entering the Admiral's cabin and listening to the proceedings of a Court of Enquiry; (2) an act to the prejudice of good order and naval discipline in inciting Robert Peart, an ordinary seaman, from telling the truth. The enquiry into the proceedings of which the prisoner was charged with listening was held on the 3rd January, and was in connection with the trouble on board H.M.S. *Barfleur* about Christmas time, when a bell brought from the North by one of the officers and the gun-sights were thrown overboard.

The Court was composed as follows:—Captain Percy Scott, C.B., of H.M.S. *Terrible*; Captain J. H. T. Burke, C.B., of H.M.S. *Orlando*; Captain G. A. Callaghan, C.B., of H.M.S. *Endymion*; Captain P. F. Tillard, of H.M.S. *Dido*; and Commander H. P. W. Freeman, of H.M.S. *Mohawk*. Mr. G. Hewlett, Secretary to Rear-Admiral Bruce, was Judge Advocate, and Lieut. J. S. Wilde, of H.M.S. *Terrible*, was Officer of the Court.

Captain Warrender, of H.M.S. *Barfleur*, appeared as prosecutor, and Lieutenant Noble, of H.M.S. *Barfleur*, appeared on behalf of the prisoner.

Captain Warrender gave formal evidence as to the identity of the prisoner.

William Newcombe, first-class petty officer, H.M.S. *Barfleur*, said he was standing on the aft deck with Freeme and Thurgur on the afternoon of the 3rd January waiting to give his evidence at the Court of Enquiry which was then being held when he heard Freeme pass the remark to Thurgur "What has Rice gone into the Admiral's cabin for? Can you hear what is said?" He looked up and saw Rice just entering the starboard door. After that he went on deck.

In reply to the Court, witness said he was standing outside the Admiral's sleeping cabin. There was nobody else there besides himself and the other two petty officers he had mentioned.

On being cross-examined by the prisoner, witness said he did not know what time it was when he saw the prisoner go into the Admiral's cabin.

Did you see me come out of the Admiral's cabin?—No.

Did you see Admiral and Lady Bruce come out of the cabin to go on shore?—Yes.

How long was it after this that you saw me going into the cabin?—I cannot say.

The Court—Was there a sentry at the door to prevent anybody going in?—A sentry was at the port side at the time.

George Ernest Freeme, first-class petty officer, H.M.S. *Barfleur*, said he was on the aft deck on the afternoon of the 3rd January. He was called aft in company with another petty officer. After standing there some few minutes he was called into Court and answered questions put to him. On coming out he had a conversation with Thurgur and Newcombe, first-class petty officers. After this Thurgur was called into Court. After he came out they had a conversation together. He saw Rice come aft on to the aft deck in company with a Chinaman. A few minutes afterwards he saw Rice entering the starboard cabin door, and he passed the remark, "What is Rice going into that door for?" Thurgur answered, "I don't know; he's galley's crew." After this they were told to go on deck, and they remained in the starboard gangway in case they were required again.

The Court—Whereabouts on the aft deck were you and the other petty officers standing?—On the starboard side.

Was nobody else standing on that side?—No, sir.

The prisoner—What time was it when you saw me go into the Admiral's cabin?—I cannot say; I was awakened from sleep and went aft.

Did you see Admiral and Lady Bruce leave the cabin to go ashore?—Yes.

How long was it after this that you saw me go into the cabin?—I do not remember.

Did you not state to the Captain that it was just after the Admiral and Lady Bruce had gone ashore that you saw me?—I don't remember saying it was directly afterwards.

Are you sure the words you have given were the exact words you said to Thurgur?—Yes.

Where was the sentry at the time I went into the Admiral's cabin?—Standing midships with his back to the aft ladder.

Was he by the starboard door?—No.

Whereabouts was he exactly?—On the port side of the ladder, with his back to the ladder, as I stated before.

The Court—Where was the sentry facing?—Facing to port, sir.

Which galley does the prisoner belong to?—The Admiral's, sir.

Had the prisoner duties which might take him to the Admiral's cabin?—I did not know at the time, sir, but afterwards I heard he was acting as Admiral's coxswain.

Did you see anyone else enter the Admiral's cabin besides the prisoner?—No, sir.

At the time, did you think there was anything wrong in the prisoner entering the cabin?—No, sir. I had not the slightest suspicion whatever, sir.

You did not think there was anything wrong in it?—No, sir.

Captain Warrender—Do you remember if the aft ladder had a screen or not?—Yes, it had.

Alfred James Sawden, the Rear-Admiral's coxswain, said the prisoner's duty on the afternoon of the 3rd January was to act as coxswain of the second gig, whilst the coxswain was attending the Court of Enquiry. He had no duty in the Admiral's cabin that afternoon, to his knowledge. The Admiral went ashore in the second gig.

The Court—Had the prisoner any duty at any time in the Admiral's cabin?—Not on that day.

Had he previously?—Yes, sir; he finished by eight o'clock every morning.

On what day did this duty cease?—I do not remember the date.

Was it before the New Year or after?—I really do not remember the date.

It has been given in evidence that this man was acting Admiral's coxswain. Is that so?—Not Admiral's coxswain. He was acting coxswain to the galley, as the coxswain of the galley was attending the Court of Enquiry.

Do you mean the Admiral's galley or the Captain's galley?—The second gig was being used as the Admiral's galley.

Were any of the galley's crew in the Admiral's cabin during the Court of enquiry?—I saw no one there.

Charles John Thurgur, first-class petty officer on board H.M.S. *Barfleur*, said he was on the aft deck on the afternoon of 3rd January talking to petty officers Freeme and Newcombe, when Freeme passed the remark—"What is Rice doing, going into the Admiral's cabin?" He replied that he did not know, as Rice was "galley's crew." He did not see the prisoner enter the Admiral's cabin himself.

He was standing on the starboard side of the aft, together with the two other petty officers.

Prisoner—When Freeme passed this remark to you, did you look right over the door at once?—No.

Where was the sentry standing at the time you made this remark?—I did not notice the sentry there.

Have you any idea what time this was?—About three, or just after.

In reply to further questions put by the prisoner, the witness said he did not see the Admiral and Lady Bruce leave the cabin to go on shore. He did not see the prisoner come aft to the aft deck.

By the Court—When he was told the prisoner had been into the Admiral's cabin, he did not think there was anything wrong in it.

Charles G. Deasly, leading seaman H.M.S. *Barfleur*, said he was on duty in the middle watch on the night of 3rd January, when Rice came up to him and said he knew the evidence and did not think much of it.

In reply to the prisoner, witness said—You also said to me—"What do you think of the case?" and I replied that I knew nothing about it. You did not tell me any of the evidence.

Did I lead you in any way to believe that I knew any of the evidence?—Well, I thought it was funny you should know anything about it, as you said you knew it.

Robert Peart, ordinary seaman H.M.S. *Barfleur*, said he was on the fore-castle on the afternoon of the 3rd January, when the prisoner came to him and said—"If you are sent for, say that you know nothing at all about it. In fact, say you never saw Daly that night." Prisoner then left him to go and tell Daly. After this he had a conversation with Petty Officer Drew, who told him that if he knew anything about it, it would be best to tell the truth. Witness replied that he should clear himself. Drew asked him how he could clear himself, and he replied that he could clear himself because of what Daly told him.

Prisoner—Did I incite you not to tell the truth at the enquiry if you were called?—Yes.

What was the truth, then, that I told you not to tell?

The Judge Advocate (to the witness)—You need not answer that question if you think it will incriminate you.

Captain Scott (to witness)—If you think you are asked questions which you think will get you personally into trouble you need not answer them.

Witness—The truth was that I had seen Daly that night.

Prisoner—Did I lead you to infer I had any knowledge of you and Daly being together on that night?—No.

Then if I happened to tell you to say you had not seen Daly, it must have been mere guess work on my part?—Yes.

Then I did not know it was the truth you had seen Daly?—No.

Did I lead you to believe that I thought that you were implicated with Daly?

Witness did not answer this question.

Prisoner—Did I know it was not the truth when I told you to say that you knew nothing about it?

No answer.

The Court—You said the prisoner went away to tell Daly the same thing? How do you know that?—Rice told me so.

The question was asked "What is Daly?" and the reply was that he was leading seaman and gymnasium instructor.

J. W. Drew, first-class petty officer on board H.M.S. *Barfleur*, said he was on the fore-castle on the afternoon of 3rd January talking to an ordinary seaman named Peart, when Rice came, called Peart on one side, and told him not to say "anything at all about it," and that he was going aft to give "Tim" the "tip."

Captain Warrender—Did you speak to Peart after this?—Yes, sir.

State what occurred.—I asked Peart if Rice had anything to do with the bell, and he said he did not think he had, but he was going aft to tell Daly.

In reply to the prisoner, witness said he did not hear everything he said to Peart. He was talking to Peart about a minute.

Did you tell Peart that his name had been brought up in the enquiry?—I told Peart that I believed his name was connected with it.

Had you any reason to believe that I told Peart not to say what was the truth?—I had no reason to believe that you told him to say what was not the truth.

It was stated that the man referred to as "Tim" was Daly.

The Court—What distance were you from Peart when the prisoner spoke to him?—About six feet.

What does "this affair" which has been spoken about mean?—Throwing the bell overboard.

Prisoner—Did you pass any remarks to Peart concerning what you heard me say?—Yes I said to Peart, "Rice had better be careful," as he had been rushing about all the afternoon.

Do you know what I was rushing about all the afternoon for?—No.

Did you see me speak to anybody that afternoon?—Yes, I saw you talking to the ship's corporal, a man named Marr.

Was that after I had spoken to Peart?—Yes.

Did you see me speak to anybody else?—Yes, I saw you talking to a man named Speed.

If you only saw me speaking to Corporal Marr and Speed, what do you mean by saying that I was rushing about?—You were in

amongst the witnesses at the Court of Enquiry.

Did I speak to any of the witnesses?—I could not say.

This closed the case for the prosecution and the Court adjourned to allow of the prisoner getting up his defence.

On the Court re-assembling the witness Freeme was recalled. He said that on the morning he was called aft the Commander asked him if he saw Rice go into the Admiral's cabin, and he replied "Yee." Upon this Rice turned to him and said, "You did not see me go into the Admiral's cabin; you saw me go into the Admiral's pantry." He said he would not be certain, as he did not know whether the Admiral's pantry was on the starboard side or not. The Commander told him he had better go down and make sure. He went down the ladder on the starboard side and looked for the Admiral's pantry. He saw the sentry and asked him which side was the Admiral's pantry. When he told him it was the port side he (witness) turned and pointed to the door that Rice went into on the starboard side. He then went on deck to tell the Commander that he was positive that Rice went into the Admiral's cabin as until then he did not know where the Admiral's pantry was.

A statement prepared for the defence was then read. In this statement the prisoner denied the charges brought against him, and contended that no satisfactory evidence had been brought forward to prove that he entered the Admiral's cabin while the Court of Enquiry was being held.

Edwin Windsor, coxswain of the Admiral's galley, said he was standing outside the Admiral's cabin with the witnesses of the Court of Enquiry on the day in question when Rice came to him for orders. He replied that he had got his orders. Rice said the Flag Lieutenant had sent him to look for his servant. After that Rice went into the pantry and that was all he saw of him. Witness was standing outside the port door—between the door and the pantry. He was there from the time he was called until the Court was over. He did not take particular notice where the sentry was standing when Rice was aft. He did not see any Chinaman with Rice. If Rice had gone into the Admiral's cabin he would have seen him from where he was standing.

The Court—Why did Rice come to you for orders?—From my being coxswain of the galley and telling him at dinner time to take on as coxswain, as I had to go to the Court of Enquiry; and he came to me for orders to what to know do.

Could the prisoner have entered the Admiral's cabin without you seeing him?—No, sir.

Michael Collins also deposed to seeing Rice enter the Admiral's pantry but not the Admiral's cabin, adding that from where he was standing he could not have failed to see Rice enter the Admiral's cabin, had he done so. In his opinion the prisoner could not have entered the Admiral's cabin without the sentry seeing him.

Charles Buddell, who was sentry at the Admiral's cabin on the day of the enquiry, and George Evans, also gave evidence which went to show that the prisoner did not enter the Admiral's cabin on the day in question.

The Court was cleared while the decision was considered, and on the Court being thrown open again.

Captain Scott said the Court thought the charges against the prisoner had not been proved, and the prisoner would accordingly be discharged.

Mr. E. Cousins, who during the troubled months of June and July at Tientsin gave shelter to several hundred Chinese refugees in Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s godowns, was on the 25th ult. presented with a testimonial by the grateful Chinese. The latter subscribed and had made two large *piens*, or laudatory tablets, on which, with an accompanying handsome silk banner, were inscribed in gold characters appropriate mottoes together with a few words marking the occasion and names of those who participated. These were carried in procession by about 300 native Christians with singing and music to Mr. Cousins's house and there with felicitous expressions presented to him.

POLLARD'S LILLIPUTIAN COMPANY.

"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

Hongkong residents have read much about the phenomenal success which has attended *The Belle of New York* at home, but until the visit of Pollard's Lilliputian Company they had not had the opportunity of witnessing it in this part of the world, it being performed for the first time in Hongkong at the City Hall on Friday night, 11th inst. *The Belle of New York* was first placed on the stage some four years ago at the Avenue Theatre, London, having a continuous run of close on four years. It was first performed by the Pollard's Company at Johannesburg in May, 1889, when it had a run of five weeks. Other places in South Africa were visited, including Pretoria, where Oom Paul was among the auditors. Since then the company have delighted huge audiences in India, Java, and Australia.

Like most pieces of the kind, *The Belle of New York* has nothing much about it in the way of plot or story. Harry Bronson, the son of Ichabod Bronson, President of the Young Men's Rescue League and Anti-Cigarette Society of Cohoes, is sent to New York for the purpose of finishing his education. His father, being of a philanthropic turn of mind, supplies him with a sum of money with which to build a school at which the street Arabs of the great American city might be trained in the way they should go. Young Bronson, however, completely loses his head on his arrival in New York. He squanders the money entrusted to him by his fond parent in riotous living, and gets himself into a quandary by falling in love and proposing to almost every girl he meets. When his father comes to New York on the occasion of an excursion in connection with one of the goody-goody societies with which he is associated, he discovers the life his son has been leading and disinherits him, declaring his intention later on of leaving his money to *The Belle of New York*—to wit, Violet Gray, a Salvation Lassie. Adversity brings out young Bronson's better qualities. He becomes assistant in a candy store, and having served a probation there, marries "The Belle," who had previously refused him, and presumably settles down.

The individual performers must now claim some attention. The three leading parts were admirably taken by Master Willie Pollard and Miss Lily Thomson, as Ichabod and Harry Bronson, and Miss Minnie Topping, as the Belle. The first named of these acted as well as in the part of Wun-Hi and managed his voice better on Saturday, especially in the second act. Miss Lily Thomson sustained the role of the young spendthrift with commendable spirit and looked well. Miss Minnie Topping has an opportunity, which she did not get in the *Geisha*, of displaying her really excellent abilities, and she sang and danced with considerable taste and grace, making a very good impression. The palm in dancing, however, was carried off by Misses Irene Goulding and Ivy Trott, who gave evidence of admirable training and twice gained several encores for *pas de deux*. Miss Ivy Trott, who doubled the parts of Mamie Clancy and Kissie Flitzgarter, again showed herself a clever little actress all round. Master Harold Hill as the "polite lunatic" was very amusing and displayed much agility. Master Fred. Stewart made the most of his chances as Kenneth Mug, but his best moment was as leader of the sailors in the third scene of the first act, when his singing of the Anglo-American patriotic song was very good indeed and the singer was deservedly encored. We must also mention the singing of Miss Alice Bennetto in the Coon-Song, and the performances of Miss Emma Thomas (Doc Smifkins), Masters Moore and Thomas (the Portuguese twins), and Miss Agnes Turner (Cora Angelique). Little Miss Madge Williams in the part of Fifi charmed the whole house, and her "Teach me how to love" was received as well as anything in the course of the play. The high-kick dance by those two small wonders, Daphne Trott and May Chester, was also among the best things on Saturday evening. Nor must we omit to mention the very pretty Shepherd's Ballet on Narragansett Pier in the second act, admirably mounted and danced.

The following is the cast—

Ichabod Bronson	President of the Young Men's Rescue League and Anti-Cigarette Society of Cohoes	Master Willie Pollard
Harry Bronson	His son, a young spendthrift	Miss Lily Thomson
Karl Von Pumpnick	(A Polite Lunatic)	Master Harold Hill
"Doc" Smifkins	The Father of the Queen of Comic Opera	Miss Emma Thomas
"Blinky Bill"	Mo. Guir. A mixed Ale Pugilist	Miss Irene Goulding
Kenneth Mugg	Low Comedian of the Cora Angelique Comic Opera Co.	Master Fred. Stewart
Count Ratsi Ratatoo	Portuguese	Master George Moore
"Patsi"	Twins	Master Willie Thomas
Mr. Twiddles	Harry Bronson's Private Secretary	Master John Murphy
Mr. Snooper	A Newspaper Reporter	Miss Myrtle Trott
Mr. Peeper	Photographer	Master Bonnie Musgrove
William	A Butler	Master William Thomson
Violet Gray	A Salvation Lassie (The Belle)	Miss Minnie Topping
Fifi Fricot	A Little Parisienne	Miss Madge Williams
Kissie Flitzgarter	A Music Hall dancer	Miss I. Trott
Cora Angelique	Queen of Comic Opera	Miss Agnes Turner
Mamie Clancy	A Pell Street Girl	Miss Ivy Trott
Myrtle Mince		Miss May Topping
Queenie Cake		Miss Ruby Moore
Birdie Seed		Miss Alice Bennetto
Gladys Glee		Miss Daphne Trott
Dorothy June		Miss May Thorn
Marjorie May		Miss Bella Thomson
Little Miss Flirt		Miss Ethel Bennetto

HARMSTON'S CIRCUS.

As announced in our issue of Monday, Harmston's Circus-troupe, which had arrived from Bangkok on the 12th inst., pitched their marquee on the Recreation Ground, and the size of the audience which gathered within its spacious interior on Wednesday night on the occasion of the initiatory performance, must have been gratifying to all concerned. Quite a sea of faces, mounted tier upon tier, encircled the whole place, and the general verdict undoubtedly was that the performance right through was genuinely commendable. There was not an act upon the programme submitted last night that did not call for favourable comment. There are other circumstances pertaining to the general appointments of the tents that will appeal to the patrons. For instance, the arrangement for the illumination of the "house" were admirable, the seating accommodation of the whole area was excellent, and there was a general cleanliness and comfort observable which are not seen at ordinary circuses. It says much for the management that within a few hours of their arrival the colossal marquee with all its varied appointments should be erected and fixed, complete in every detail. Entering the show on the right and left is the menagerie, of which, without doubt, the chief feature of interest is the Royal Bengal tiger *Duke*, which is claimed to be without any exaggeration the largest tiger in captivity anywhere in the world. It was born in Tokyo ten years ago in the very cage it now occupies. The two Sumatra tigers and two Java leopards are interesting specimens of the animal kingdom, while there are also a large and highly trained Burmese elephant, and a smaller one obtained a few miles from Rangoon, where he was being trained in stacking timber for a large Chinese and Siamese syndicate. There are two of India's sacred cattle and a sugarbear from Mandalay. The smaller cages contain monkeys, squirrels, wildcats, and wildbirds, while almost every species of ground game is represented.

The programme opened with some fine French vaulting, in which Gilbert Eldred proved himself a complete artiste. It was an exhibition of skill seldom ever seen so far from Europe, those who excel in the art preferring to remain where their efforts meet with better reward. The trick-riding by Mdlle. le Blonde was a great attraction. She fairly won her audience as she ran with wonted gaiety into the ring, and the connection was maintained till she left the arena at the last enthusiastic plaudits. The *Babe* Burmese elephant and the educated horse *Aden* were put through some astonishing feats, exhibiting the remarkably high instincts of the animals, and unmistakably showing the vo-

lume, of care which must have been taken in their training. The education of any of the dumb creation for a performance such as the one in review, is not a matter of a moment—it is the reward of a long trial of patience and endurance, and that this point has been reached by the proprietors of Harmston's show, was patent to all who witnessed their performance of last night. "The Imperial Ladders" was one of the many features of the evening. It consisted of two ladders being brought into the ring, and Mr. Charles Weatherly standing between them on the rungs, held them into position; seven or eight other performers, six of whom were ladies, then arranged themselves in various positions on either side, changing quickly at the sound of a bell, and finally the whole assume the shape of a pyramid between the two ladders. The act was skilfully performed and was rewarded every now and again with an enthusiastic outburst of applause. The Arab horses were introduced at various stages during the evening, and altogether they appeared to be of an exceptionally fine stamp. They have been trained to an unusual degree of perfection, the one upon which Mdlle. le Blonde gave some capitally executed bare-back performances having only been out a few months from one of the largest and best known studs in Europe. It was remarkable to witness the animal's instinct. Every behest of the ring-master was obeyed with promptness and intelligence. The first part of the programme closed with Messrs. Harmston and Eldred in a double jockey act. Not only did each jump on to the horse's back from the ground, landing in both sitting and standing postures, but both performers did a feat which the management affirm has never been done before in an arena of that size—namely, jumping together on a bare-backed horse cantering round the ring. The demonstration of applause which greeted this skilful performance was indeed merited, and was a fitting conclusion to the first half of a very enjoyable entertainment.

The second part of the programme opened with a trapeze performance by the Stewart Brothers, and was a decided hit. A launch from a bar suspended at the top of the pavilion, with a swing across, and a double somersault on the way to the other end, where the performer is caught by the hands of his *confrere* as he hangs suspended by the feet in mid air, is one of the daring exploits of these far-famed artists. But when a dive is made, head first, into the net from the uppermost bars, the audience are "caught" in utter amazement. The applause is simply deafening, and continues till the pair return to the ring and repeat their retiring bows. To witness this item alone was well worth the money paid for admission, but other, and equally accomplished feats within the arena, followed. Among them the flexible marvel Ajax, whose first appearance inside a bouquet would lead to the impression that he was boneless, and that impression is not lost when he goes through some remarkable contortions to the enthusiastic delight of those assembled. Mrs. Harmston-Love here introduced the famous Arab Stallion *Ali* presented to her by Aga Khan of the great Mogul stud in Persia, and the performances of this steed were a credit to the training that lady had given it. Half a dozen Arab stallions were put through some interesting drill, marching and countermarching in single file, double file, and fours. The jumping stallion *Bonny* is a beautiful and well-trained animal, and the equestrian performances by Mr. George Harmston have only to be seen to be admired. Time and space prevent us from doing justice to the remaining items on the programme. All of them were well sustained, and the evening was brought to a close by the entrance of Gus Burns into the tiger's cage, which for that purpose was dragged into the ring by the elephant *Babe*. The intrepid tamer caused the beast to rear at first, and then to crouch at one end of the cage while a lighted bar was placed in position over it. This being done *Duke* bounded across the bar from one side to the other and went through one or two jumping performances with apparent ease. As the keeper emerged from the cage, however, the beast made a spring at the door, which, we were told, was not done in any spiteful mood, but was simply a force of habit displayed since he has been

in captivity, and with a view to catch the beef which was thrown to him. In short, the performance was well worth the patronage accorded to it, and if last night's crowded tent is a safe augury of the future, a successful season is in store for the Circus-troupe in Hongkong. Standing room was not obtainable half an hour after the doors were opened, and the management desire us to state that box-holders should take their seats in good time. There will be a matinee to-day at 3.30 p.m.

The Circus gave their second performance on Thursday before a very large audience. The programme was most successfully carried out, and the performances of all the artistes evoked enthusiastic applause. The performance of Ajax, the contortionist, was really marvellous, as was also the display by Gilbert Elred and Stewart Bros. The musical entree by Charles E. Weatherly was most artistic, and was much enjoyed. Space will not permit us to give any more details, but the company are bound to draw crowded houses so long as they continue such excellence of programme. A matinee for children will be given on Saturday afternoon next. The Trezigondas, the famous artistes from the London Hippodrome, arrived by the *Coromandel* on Thursday to join the Circus. The members of the quartette are Mdlles. Dora, Mona, Tessie and Daisy De Johns, and they are described as being the "reigning sensation of Continental circuses."

"OUR BOYS" AT CANTON.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 15th January.

A really delightful show came off at the Club Theatre last night, under the hospitable auspices of Mr. Tom Griffith. Though the entertainment was a private one, the audience included the major part of the community; and a fine body of bluejackets and marines from H.M.S. *Lizard* added to the general enjoyment by the undisguised evidence of their own. The sailors' evening was, by Mr. Griffith's forethought, well rounded off by supper and toasts; and we doubt if an audience ever left a theatre better pleased with themselves and their entertainers.

The piece chosen was an ambitious one—no other than the famous comedy of *Our Boys*. Some doubt was expressed beforehand as to whether it was not trying griffin actors a trifle "high." But those of the audience who came prepared to be indulgent were forced to abandon that attitude, at a very early stage, for one of sheer delight and genuine, if astonished, admiration. *Our Boys* held its own in London, if we remember aright, for some 400 nights. The Canton community can scarcely run to that; but those who were present last night would certainly welcome a second, and indeed a third, performance, and will long remember one of the pleasantest evenings they ever spent in the Canton Theatre.

The play itself is too well-known to need much recapitulation: Sir Geoffrey Champneys and his son Talbot; the charming girl heiress, and pretty, penniless cousin; the still susceptible aunt; the grimy "slavey"—who might be voted a cinder if she didn't prove herself such a brick! Young Middlewick—too good a fellow to allow his own refinement to be offended by his old father's coarseness; and, finally, the part which James has made immortal, the retired Buttermann—the expert in "Inferior Do'sset!"

Although the dialogue is throughout cleverly written, it is to the Buttermann that fall the plums of the piece. After all these years one may have forgotten them, but, on re-hearing, the old funny bits come up with all their former force. "And that, Charles Middlewick, is my ultipomatum!" for instance, reminding us of Kipling's "harumfrodite" and "cosmopolouse." And then the old man's tender concern for the Italian warehousemen he understands to have been ruined and buried at Herculaneum, is still fresh, as twenty years ago. One of the prettiest touches in the play we thought was where the lodging slavey flings back the Buttermann's tip, suspecting him of bad designs on the young "gen'man." "If that there 'arf sovering," soliloquises the warm-

hearted old shopman, "don't turn into a fiver before night, my name's not Perkin Middlewick!" And so on.

The part was most admirably rendered by Mr. Harry Hancock, who in every accent and gesture—down to the very twinkle in his eye—gave a consistent and genial interpretation of the kind of vulgar old Burrough shopkeeper. His mere appearance put one in a good humour; and the only criticism we can think of is that the laughter he caused sometimes drowned other—and, we suppose, equally funny—parts of the dialogue.

Miss Morris acted the penniless cousin with a refinement, intuition, and finish which was astounding in such an unpractised actress—for, we understand, this was Miss Morris's first appearance on the boards.

Mr. G. W. Pearson as her lover—who covers courage and heart under a Dundreary imbecility—supported her very ably. The proposing scene between them was admirably given, and Mr. Pearson somehow understood the art of enlisting our sympathies for hidden good qualities, even while drawing our ridicule by his outward inanities.

Space precludes our dwelling on Miss Kate Morris's acting of the heiress and her especially clear enunciation as it deserved. Nor can we do more than record "ong passong"—as the Buttermann might say—our admiration of the Aunt of Miss Violet Morris, the Charlie Middlewick of Mr. Hancock, the spirited little Belinda of Mrs. Griffith, the Sir Geoffrey of Mr. Lafrentz—a thoughtful and dignified rendering; the Light Footman of Mr. Gater; or the Heavy Butler of Mr. H. W. Hine.

It was not a case of two stars and the rest fire-flies. All were excellent, and worked excellently together to a highly successful issue.

"God save the Queen" closed the proceedings, much enlivened during the entr'actes by some admirable music by the Misses Morris; and "The Bandalero" by Mr. Wolfe—a difficult song well sung.

IMPORTANT CUSTOMS' CASE IN JAPAN.

HONGKONG RUM.

The following is an unabridged translation made by the *Japan Mail* from the Japanese *Official Gazette* of a decision given by the Minister of Finance in regard to an administrative action instituted by Mr. Ryle Holme in connection with the imposition of certain custom duties:—

Petitioner; Ryle Holme, an English subject, Manager of Jardine, Matheson & Co., at No. 1, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, Kanagawa prefecture.

The principal points in the representations made by the said petitioner are as follows:—

The rum manufactured by the China Sugar Refining Company, Ltd., in Hongkong, has hitherto, at the time of its importation to Japan with a certificate from the Japanese Consul in that place, been subjected to an ad valorem duty of 40 per cent. according to Import Tariff Table No. 392. The petitioner, taking as his standard the rate of alcohol contained in the rum within the prescribed limits, imported as samples, on 20th April this year, eleven bottles, each containing 4 go, from the aforesaid company. These he specially submitted to the inspection of the customs authorities by whom it was decided that the same should be subject to 40 per cent. ad valorem duty in accordance with Import Tariff Table No. 392. Orders were then given to the company mentioned for a supply of the commodity, exactly similar in quality to the samples, and accordingly 10 casks of rum of the same quality as the sample already examined by the Customs authorities were imported by the steamer *Nippon Maru*, which arrived (in Yokohama?) on the 10th of June last. This time, however, 100 per cent. ad valorem duty was imposed, and consequently the petitioner referred the matter to the Superintendent of Customs by a note dated June 19th of the same year. A decision was given to the effect that the article in question was a distilled liquor instead of rum—a decision with which he could not persuade himself to comply. The rum of the China Sugar Re-

fining Company, in Hongkong, has been shipped to Japan during many years past, and is not in any way a new article of import. It is not unlikely, however, that the article, in dispute, not being a rum which was intended to be preserved for a number of years, may have been deficient, to a certain extent, in flavour to fully satisfy the Customs Authorities. Still, there is no doubt that it was pure rum manufactured out of sugar molasses, according to the improved process adopted by the Company above referred to. Moreover, as the quantity of alcohol contained in the rum recent imported does not exceed the limits which were notified by the Yokohama Custom House, in the beginning of this year, to be below 68 per cent., it must be recognised as pure rum, and not as any distilled liquor. Such being the case, it is to be desired that the decision given by the Superintendent of Customs should be withdrawn, and 40 per cent. ad valorem duty be hereafter imposed as heretofore upon the article above mentioned, in conformity with Import Table No. 392.

The defence of the Customs Superintendent is, in the main, as follows:—

Although the petitioner insists that the article in dispute is rum, as the liquid contained in five of the casks is found to consist of 50.4 per cent. of alcohol, 0.1114 per cent. of extracts, 0.001417 per cent. of ashes, a trace of grape sugar, with a specific gravity of 0.0419 and a reaction of acid, while the constituents of the liquid in the other five casks are 6.06 per cent. alcohol, 0.1180 per cent. extracts, 0.00148 per cent. ashes, a trace of grape sugar, with a specific gravity of 0.9248 and a reaction of acid, both are wanting in the flavour that is peculiar to rum, and it must be regarded as a distilled liquor different from rum. Again, although the petitioner asserted that he has undertaken the import of the present commodity as he was required to pay only 40 per cent. ad valorem duty at the time of the importation in April last of the article similar to that now under complaint, the article in question had the quality as well as conditions appertaining to rum, and was not therefore to be regarded as one similar to the liquid now the subject of appeal. That being the case, it was quite proper that 100 per cent. ad valorem duty should have been levied by the Customs Superintendent on the article referred to, in accordance with Import Tariff Table No. 398.

Having collected for purpose of examination all the documents and samples bearing upon the question at issue, together with the reports from the investigation Committee appointed in connection with appeals against the Customs Authorities, it is now decided that, although the appellant insists upon the similarity of the article in dispute to the rum for which he was required to pay 40 per cent. ad valorem duty as specified in Import Tariff Table No. 392, at each time when he previously imported it, yet as the sample presented by him is a brownish, yellow transparent liquid, destitute of the flavour peculiar to rum, and containing as is shown by analysis, a greater quantity of isolated acid and a lesser amount of esutern, than the pure rum, while it is deficient in the quantities of alcohol, extracts, sugar, and ashes, and moreover the liquid distilled from it is not only liable to be coloured in sulphuric acid, but presents a dark brown hue when mixed with the latter, showing no remarkable signs of the reaction of tannic acid, the same is regarded as a beverage prepared by the addition of water and alcohol to the rum.

For these reasons decision is given as follows: The claims of the petitioner are without justifiable grounds.

December 13th, 33rd year of Meiji.

Viscount WATANABE KUNITAKE,
Minister of State for Finance.

The act authorising the organisation of the Municipal Police Force at Manila was passed by the Civil Commission on the 9th inst. after one or two amendments had been made to it as originally formed. Commissioner Wright proposed an amendment to section 2, making it read:—"The officers and men of the Metropolitan Police Force shall be paid, per month, in money of the United States, as follows:—First lieutenants, \$125; second lieutenants, \$115; sergeants, \$90; corporals, \$75; privates, \$65."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE MURDER OF YEUNG KU WAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 14th January.

SIR,—Will the British Government refuse to recognise the gravity of the horrible cold-blooded murder just perpetrated in the Colony? The unfortunate victim, Yeung Ku Wan, *alias* Yeung Hop Kat, was a British subject, having been born and educated in the Colony. His father was also a British subject and was born in Singapore.

This horrible cold-blooded murder has sent a shiver of grief and sympathy through the Colony, so well as Mr. Yeung known and respected for his sterling qualities. A gross and daring violation of British territory has been committed by the Chinese Government through its representative at Canton. It was only quite recently that the Acting Viceroy, Tak Sow, issued a proclamation offering a handsome reward for Mr. Yeung, dead or alive. Ever since this proclamation parties of men have been despatched from Canton bent on capturing or shooting Mr. Yeung. Consequently, Tak Sow and his officials should be held responsible for Mr. Yeung's murder.

His Excellency the Governor should demand the immediate production of the murderers, and the British Government should take active measures for redress. At present the Colony is full of the Viceroy's secret spies and informers, and assassins are ready for more diabolical work. I am sure the Hon. F. H. May and Chief Detective Inspector Hanson will leave no stone unturned in their investigations of this horrible crime.

Mr. Yeung has sacrificed his life for Christianity and Reform, but his name will live for ever as a hero and a patriot. His wife and children should be protected and supported by the British Government.—Yours, etc.,

X.

P.S.—As the leader of the reformers of South China, Mr. Yeung has been most active and energetic, having travelled to Indo-China, the Straits Settlements, Siam, India, Ceylon, South Africa, and back again to Japan, on his unselfish mission of reform. This policy was the reformation of China under the guidance and support of the Governments of Great Britain, America, and Japan. He was waiting for developments, when unfortunately his promising career was cut short by the assassin's bullet. The reformers confess that they despise such cowardly measures for dealing with their enemies, and that they can well afford to wait for their "turn" and the day of reckoning.

RESERVED SEATS AT THE THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 14th January.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Reserved Seat" is not I am sorry to say, the only one who has had to complain of seats being jumped; but with the crowds which have filled the building each night it is impossible for me to be everywhere.

The only way to serve those who have taken others' seats is to tell the usher to call me or one of my managers, and I will do the rest.

I am very sorry that these things occur, but I should advise those who book \$2 seats to come before 8.30.—Yours, etc.,

A. H. POLLARD,
Manager.

THE PRICE OF GAS IN HONGKONG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 16th January.

SIR,—I should like to know whether any of your readers can tell me how it is that we have to pay \$3.00 per 1,000 cubic feet of gas in Hongkong, whilst our friends in Shanghai, vide your issue of to-day, pay only \$1.70.—Yours, etc.,

INQUIRER.

THE STAR FERRY CO., LD.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Star Ferry Co., Ltd., was held at the offices of the Company shortly after noon on the 15th inst. Hon. C. P. Chater presided and there were also present Messrs. J. A. Mackay, R. C. Wilcox, A. J. Raymond, W. Hutton Potts, P. Sachse, G. C. Moxon, D. M. Moses, and T. H. Reid.

The CHAIRMAN said they had met there that afternoon to confirm the special resolution which was passed on 28th February last, and which read as follows:—

"That the new regulations already approved by this meeting, and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the Chairman thereof, be and the same are hereby approved, and that such regulations be and the same are hereby adopted as the regulations of the Company, to the exclusion of all existing regulations thereof."

Mr. WILCOX seconded.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN: That is all the business, gentlemen. I thank you for your attendance.

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LD.

On the 16th inst., at noon, the 14th ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the company's office, No. 2, Des Vœux Road. Mr. R. Shewan presided and there were also present Messrs. J. S. Van Buren, J. H. Lewis, Chan Hing Kee (Consulting Committee), A. Babington, F. J. W. Jorge, G. H. Dann, E. G. Barrett, T. H. Reid, E. C. Emmett, C. S. Sharp, A. Dennison, E. W. Terrey, F. M. Gutierrez, R. M. Mehta, Fung Wah Chuen, and Sui Un.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the printed report and accounts for the year 1900 have been in your hands for some days, and unless you wish it I will not read them now. The result of the year's working, I think you will agree with me, is very satisfactory. The gross earnings again shew an increase over last year's figures, even after allowing for the increased capital, which, as you know, was not all placed at our disposal till 31st March. We could still employ profitably more funds than we have available at present for our business, and are therefore putting a larger amount this year to the reserve fund, with a view to building it up to a substantial figure in the course of time. Of the \$500,000 new capital authorised last year only \$200,000 was taken up, but as you are aware the money market was very tight at the time, and it did not surprise us that more applications were not received. Under these circumstances it became quite impossible for us to raise the money required to go on with our original intention to build godowns, and the land which we required for that purpose was accordingly resold as soon as possible at a fair profit, the proceeds being utilised at once for loans in the usual way. There still remains \$300,000 capital unallotted, which we hope we may soon see all taken, as we could make good use of it just now. When this has all been got in our capital will be \$1,000,000 paid up and \$1,000,000 uncalled, and I may add in case shareholders have any anxiety on the subject that there is still no intention whatever of calling up the unpaid portion of the capital which forms a second reserve fund of its own and serves as additional security to our creditors and debenture holders. The accounts themselves call for little comment or explanation, but I may say that we are quite satisfied with the securities we hold against all our loans and mortgages. If, however, there are any other points on which you would require information I shall be glad if you will mention them now before I proceed to move the adoption of this report and accounts.

There being no questions the report was adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. BARRETT.

On the motion of Mr. TERRY, seconded by Mr. REID, the following were re-elected Consulting Committee:—Messrs. Chan Hing Kee and Chau Tung Shang.

On the motion of Mr. DANN, seconded by Mr. EMMETT, Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts were re-elected auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. I am much obliged to you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow morning.

THE WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The tenth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the offices of the general managers (Messrs. Meyer and Co.) No. 5, Queen's Road Central, on Monday, Mr. J. G. Schroter presided, and there were also present Messrs. C. Schroter, O. von der Heyde, F. Henderson, H. Oldenburg, H. E. Krol, M. S. Northcote, S. A. Seth, and Kwok Lum.

The notice convening the meeting was read.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your permission I shall take as read the report with the accounts for the past year which has been in your hands since a few days, and I may refrain from adding any explanatory remarks as there is no new item in the accounts and everything is drawn up on the old lines. I am pleased to add that our architects, Messrs. Palmer and Turner, who again made a careful survey of our property, report that the buildings are generally taken in a fair state of repairs and that they did not suffer from the severe typhoon of November last, except some small damage to colourwash and plaster. The wharf is naturally most exposed to wear and tear and some repairs are being done by the lessees, who, I think, looked after the premises in a satisfactory manner. The pier lease, which I mentioned last time, has now been executed by the Government, and been received by me; it is made out for the term of 50 years but the annual rental is fixed only for the first 25 years. The amount is \$480 as previously stated, but for the present this charge will be borne by our tenants. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be glad to answer any questions.

No questions being asked, the report was adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. NORTHCOTE.

On the motion of Mr. von DER HEYDE, seconded by Mr. KROL, Mr. F. Henderson was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance; warrants will be ready to-morrow.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LIMITED.

The following is the twelfth report of the board of directors of the above company to the ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the company's offices, Victoria Buildings, at noon, on Thursday, 24th inst.

Gentlemen.—The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Company, and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1900.

The net profits for that period, including \$2,352.94 balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, amount to \$1,113,804.12. From this amount an interim dividend of \$3 per share being at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum on the then paid-up capital of \$2,500.00 has already been paid. It is now proposed to pay a final dividend of \$6 per share being also at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum on the increased paid-up capital of \$5,000,000, and after writing off directors' and auditors' fees and a bonus to the office staff there remains the sum of \$540,151.01, from which it is proposed to place \$500,000 to the equalisation of dividend fund and carry forward the balance of \$40,151.01 to credit of new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. A. J. Raymond and D. M. Moses now retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. J. H. Lewis was appointed director in place of Mr. Lee Sing (deceased), and this now requires confirmation.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. R. T. Wright in the absence of Mr. J. C. Peter.

Messrs. Henderson and Peter now retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

C. W. DICKSON,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1901.

BALANCE SHEET.

31st Dec., 1900.	LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Paid-up capital		4,999,950.00	
Equalisation of dividend fund		250,000.00	
Accounts payable		364,994.56	
Balance of profit and loss account			
Less interim dividend paid		1,113,804.12	
		963,804.12	
		\$6,578,748.68	

31st Dec., 1900.	ASSETS.	\$	c.
Cash		2,138.42	
Amount advanced on mortgage		3,199,503.00	
Amount invested in property		3,421,763.71	
Furniture account		3,674.29	
Accounts receivable		31,669.26	
		\$1,578,748.68	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

June, 30th 1900.	Dr.	\$	c.
To interim dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year		150,000.00	
31st Dec., 1900.			
To charges account		31,915.72	
To repairs to house property		12,181.71	
To advertising		1,020.30	
To fire insurance		7,297.19	
To balance to be appropriated as follows:—			
Directors' fees		\$ 7,500.00	
Managing directors' fees		111,145.11	
Auditors' fees		1,000.00	
Final dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year		300,000.00	
Equalisation of dividend fund		500,000.00	
Bonus to office staff		4,008.00	
Balance to be carried to new account		40,151.01	
		963,804.12	
		\$1,166,219.04	

1st Jan., 1900.	Cr.	\$	c.
By undivided profits, 1899		2,352.94	
31st Dec., 1900.			
By interest on mortgages		\$126,104.09	
Less—Interest on loans payable		24,635.18	
		1,146,398.27	
By rents		245,398.27	
By commission		12,575.29	
By scrip fees		347.00	
By profit on sales of property		804,076.63	
		\$1,166,219.04	

THE WEST POINT BUILDING CO., LIMITED.

The following is the twelfth report of the general agents of the above company to the ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the company's offices, Victoria Buildings, at 11.30 a.m., on Thursday, 24th inst.

Gentlemen.—The general agents now submit to you a statement of the affairs of the company, and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1900.

The net profits for the year, including the amount brought forward from the previous year, amount to \$41,612.47. From this amount an interim dividend of \$1.50 per share has already been paid, and after writing off directors' and auditors' fees, it is now proposed to pay a final dividend of \$1.75 per share, making a total dividend for the twelve months of \$3.25 per share, and to carry forward the balance of \$437.47 to credit of new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. A. J. Raymond and C. S. Sharp retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. A. G. Wood having retired, Mr. C. S. Sharp has been appointed in his stead, and this appointment now requires confirmation.

AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullerton Henderson who now retires but offers himself for re-election.

A. SHELTON HOOPER.
Hongkong, 10th January, 1901.

31st Dec., 1900.	LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Paid-up capital		625,000.00	
Accounts payable		1,128.78	
Balance of profit and loss account		\$41,612.47	
Less interim dividend paid		18,750.00	
		22,862.47	
		\$648,991.25	

31st Dec., 1900.	ASSETS.	\$	c.
Cost of property		611,830.80	
Cash		37,160.45	
		\$648,991.25	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

30th June, 1900.	Dr.	\$	c.
To interim dividend of \$1.50 for half-year		18,750.00	
To fire insurance		2,002.75	
To charges		228.62	
To Crown rent and rates		5,819.92	
To repairs to buildings		1,109.28	
To commission to agents		2,171.85	
To balance to be appropriated as follows:—			
Directors' fees		\$500.00	
Auditor's fee		50.00	
Dividend of \$1.75 per share		21,875.00	
Balance to be carried to new account		437.17	
		22,862.47	
		\$52,444.89	

1st Jan., 1900.	Cr.	\$	c.
By balance brought forward		347.23	
31st Dec., 1900.			
By rents		50,844.75	
By interest		1,138.91	
By scrip fees		114.00	
		\$52,444.89	

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 11th January.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

KWONG TAK CHEUNG V. SCULFORT AND CO.
This was an action for the cost of repairs to a pinnace lost in the recent typhoon. Mr. H. W. Looker (Messrs. Deacon and Hastings) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. G. K. H. Brutton (Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton) for the defendants.

His Lordship delivered judgment to-day as follows:—On or about 20th December, 1899, Messrs. Sculfort and Co. sent a pinnace to the Kwong Tak Cheung ship carpenter and launch builder's firm to be repaired. According to the evidence, the contract was that the pinnace was to be repaired by the Kwong Tak Cheung firm in respect of the woodwork, engines, bottom and deck, etc., and that when the repairs had been done, payment was to be made by Sculfort and Co. The time limit and the price were not fixed. Having found the contract to be as stated, the first point to be decided is whether that contract is an entire or an apportionable contract, that is, whether everything to be done by the Kwong Tak Cheung firm must be performed before payment was due from Sculfort and Co., or whether the repairs required to be done by the Kwong Tak Cheung firm were so distinct that, if some were performed without the others, the Kwong Tak Cheung firm had the right of obtaining payment *pro tanto* from Sculfort and Co. The contract is, in my opinion, an entire contract, under which it was a condition precedent to payment that the repairs should be done. The object of the repairs was obviously to render the pinnace fit for service, and, unless that object was achieved, the repairs contracted for had not been executed. No objection has been taken to the prices charged, but it is alleged in defence that the repairs charged for have not been executed. It is clear from the evidence that, in April, 1900, the pinnace had not been repaired so as to be fit for service, and it is common ground that, in April, 1900, after an unsuccessful trial trip, a list of repairs was sent to the Kwong Tak Cheung by Sculfort and Co. Later, the Kwong Tak Cheung sent the following letter to Sculfort and Co.:

Hongkong, 5th June, 1900.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to advise you that the

launch under repairs is ready, therefore, please take delivery of same, and send a man to take charge, as my responsibility ceases from to-day.

Enclose herewith my D/note for repairs done—Yours faithfully,

KWONG TUCK CHEONG, per A.J.

To Messrs. L. Sculfort and Co.

Accompanying this letter was a bill. There is no direct evidence to show whether, at the date of that letter, the pinnace had been repaired or not. There is evidence to show that, in August, the engines were in a worse state than they were in April, and that, on or about 18th September and 20th September, the pinnace was not serviceable and that the engines were defective, as they had been in April. It is possible that, during the interval between 5th June and August and September, any repairs duly effected had deteriorated through the engines lying idle. But who was to blame for the engines having lain idle? There is no evidence that the Kwong Tak Cheung had had a private trial before they wrote the letter of 5th June, and, therefore, no evidence on that ground that the repairs had been effected. Their statement that 'the launch under repairs is ready' is not evidence of the fact being as stated. Apart from arrangement, the natural course would be that the repairer or contractor should make a trial trip in the presence of his client; there is, however, no direct evidence that that is the custom. But there is evidence as to the course pursued in this respect between the parties both prior and subsequent to the 5th June, 1900. It is clear that in April and September last, the plaintiffs, at the request of the defendants, got up steam and made trials in the presence of the defendants. Such action appears to me to indicate that an understanding between the parties was arrived at, subsequent to the making of the main contract, to the effect that, on demand by the defendants, the plaintiffs were to have a trial trip when the repairs were reported to be executed. In pursuance of this understanding, Mr. Thermy stated that, between April and August, he had sent his comparadore five or six times to arrange for a trial, that Chui Ng often saw him and asked for payment that he always told him that he wanted a trial with an engineer, and, if the trial were satisfactory, would pay him. In August, by arrangement, a trial was to take place, but steam was not up when Thermy and an engineer went on board. Then, on or about the 18th and 20th September, two more trials were held, both of which proved unsatisfactory. Nothing more seems to have passed between the parties, and the launch was sunk in the typhoon of the 10th November last. In my judgment, the defendants were not under any duty to take over the launch, when reported to be repaired, until they had had a trial granted to test the quality of the repairs. On this ground, therefore, the defendants were not affected by the letter of the 5th June, except so far as it was a notice to them of the repairs having been executed and of the necessity of demanding a trial trip, which, as I have already found, they did demand. The state of affairs is then that, on the 10th November, 1900, the repairs had not been done and no payment was due. On that date, the pinnace went to the bottom of the harbour whilst she was in the hands of the plaintiffs for repairs. It has not been shown that any negligence on the part of the defendants conducted to the foundering of the pinnace and thereby rendered the performance by the plaintiffs of their part of the contract impossible. In other words, the defendant had done nothing to render the contract impossible of performance by the plaintiffs: consequently the contract was not discharged and the plaintiffs cannot recover even on a quantum meruit. Moreover, if the pinnace was lost from no default of either party, its destruction would operate as a discharge of the contract, excusing both parties from further performance but not vesting a right of action in either party. If the evidence justified this latter aspect of the case, the plaintiffs would again have no claim for payment. But I abstain from expressing my opinion concerning the circumstance attending the loss of the pinnace beyond saying that, up to the present, no negligence on either side has been proved. There will be judgement for the defendants, with costs.

Monday, 14th January.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

MAN CHEW TAK V. JOACHIM MALCAMPO QUIOJA.

In this case the plaintiff resides in Hongkong, and the defendant is a merchant trading and carrying on business in Amoy. The plaintiff claimed (1) rents and profits of Section C of Hongkong Marine Lot No. 83, from August 1st, 1894, to February 4th, 1897; (b.) \$85,000, money lent on equitable mortgage on Section C of Hongkong Marine Lot No. 83; (c.) damages for breach of agreement.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. E. H. Sharp (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff. The defendant did not appear.

Lee Hing Sze, a trader living in Amoy, deposed to serving upon the defendant in Amoy a notice requesting him to attend at the Supreme Court, Hongkong, on the 14th January. The defendant was very angry and threw the document away. The witness picked it up and handed it to him again.

Mr. Sharp having read the petition, evidence in support of the statements contained therein was given.

In giving judgment for the plaintiff the Chief Justice observed that there was no doubt that a great fraud had been perpetrated.

Tuesday, 15th January.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE.)

W. H. GASKELL V. G. R. STEVENS.

In this case the plaintiff sought to recover \$500, balance of \$1,000, fee for writing up the books of the firm of Messrs. George R. Stevens and Co. during the period of Mr. F. W. Hall's management.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. K. W. Mounsey (Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton), the defendant by Mr. J. Hays (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master).

Mr. Mounsey, on the ground that the material issues of the action were raised by the defendant's affidavit, contended that it was for his friend to open the case.

Mr. Hays having replied that the account rendered by Mr. Gaskell was not a good account, it was for the plaintiff to prove his case.

His Lordship said that there was, he understood, a contract between the parties, and it was for the plaintiff to go into the box and prove that he had carried out the contract to the best of his ability.

Mr. Mounsey opened by explaining that the period of Mr. Hall's management of the business of Messrs. G. R. Stevens and Co. extended from 1st April, 1898, to 31st December, 1899—twenty-one months in all. He proceeded to read letters that had passed between the parties—the contract was contained in those letters. The work was to occupy two months, working night and day, and Mr. Gaskell stipulated for a fee of \$1,000, \$500 before commencing and \$500 on completion. In the course of one letter, Mr. Gaskell wrote that the books had been kept in a very careless manner, in another that the loss during the period of Mr. Hall's management was \$39,852.66 as compared with a loss of \$35,979.85 set out by Mr. O'Gourdin, who had previously gone into the books and accounts. Other statements were made in Mr. Gaskell's letters bearing upon the condition of certain accounts in the books.

William Henry Gaskell, accountant, then gave evidence in support of his claim. In accordance with a request from Mr. Stevens, and to oblige him, he prepared a special statement of the accounts of the steamers *Dagmar* and *Loyal*. They were included in the balance sheet already prepared by plaintiff. Particulars were given in the special statement. He also obtained from Mr. Hall particulars about a billiard-table account. He might have concluded his work by writing up the books from

the materials supplied to him, but in order to make the work as complete as possible for Messrs. Stevens and Co. he agreed to go into the details with Mr. Stevens's son. The essential work he had to do was to draw up a balance sheet and a profit and loss account and to write up the books. At Mr. Stevens's request he also made out a detailed memo. of the House Account, showing an expenditure of \$40,000 odd. He also made out a special statement of T. L. Stevens's account to oblige Mr. Stevens.

In reply to an affidavit by Mr. Stevens, witness stated that the balance sheet was as complete as he could make it from the materials and vouchers supplied to him; that if it contained errors it was because of the absence of vouchers necessary for him to work upon; and that it carried out the arrangement he had entered into with defendant. He had done more, in fact, than arranged for.

Witness was cross-examined by Mr. Hays. He did not expect to find Mr. Stevens's accounts in good order. Mr. Stevens had given him to understand that Mr. Hall had swindled him of \$30,000 or \$40,000. He could not tell until he went into the work whether he had sufficient material to write up the books. He took everything Mr. Stevens gave him, but would have liked more.

Did you consider you were justified in undertaking this work with the material you had before you and thereby earn the very handsome fee of \$1,000?—I naturally assumed that the material coming from a merchant's office in Hongkong would be full and sufficient material.

Supposing you had been informed, on reliable authority, that those books were not properly kept or written up, would you have refused to do the work? No; it would not have been on my part to do that. I would not tell whether the books were properly kept until I had completed my work.

His Lordship—If the books had been properly kept, there would not have been very much necessity for calling in Mr. Gaskell.

Witness—I understood the reason why I was asked to write up the books was that Mr. Hall had swindled Mr. Stevens out of \$30,000 or \$40,000, and I was called in to find that out.

His Lordship (to Mr. Hays)—You don't allege that anybody could have done better than Mr. Gaskell with the material supplied?

Mr. Hays—I do, my Lord.

Witness in reply to other questions, said—I was told by Mr. Stevens that Mr. Hall's ledger was not worth the paper it was written upon, and therefore I made up my own books from the vouchers and accounts supplied to me. I understood that Mr. Stevens based his statement that the books were not worth the paper on which they were written on remarks made to him by Mr. O'Gourdin, who had been through the books before me.

Witness was taken in detail through items in the accounts.

G. W. Marshall, manager to G. R. Stevens & Co., gave evidence regarding the accounts, and sought to show that Mr. Gaskell should have made more of the materials at his disposal. Judgment was reserved.

Wednesday, 16th January.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

LI SHEUNG V. THE WING FUNG TAI FIRM.

In this case the plaintiff sued the defendant for recovery of possession of the tenement No. 19 Jervois Street; \$500 for mesne profits; and he also claimed costs.

Mr. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Robinson (instructed by Mr. Holmes) for the defendants.

The Chief Justice said:—When this case was called on for hearing on the 10th inst. Mr. Slade for the plaintiff submitted that on the pleadings the plaintiff was entitled to judgment for possession of the house claimed in the suit. It is necessary therefore to consider carefully what is the language of the pleadings and what is their effect.

In his petition the plaintiff alleged that on the 12th March, 1899, he let to the defendants the house No. 19 Jervois Street, in Victoria, at

a rental of \$85 per Chinese month on a monthly tenancy; that the defendants took possession of the house and continued tenants of it until the 15th March, 1900, when the tenancy determined by a notice to quit given to the defendants on the 15th February, 1900; and that the defendants have disregarded the notice and still retain possession of the house. The prayer of the petition is that the defendants may be ordered to deliver to the plaintiff possession of the house and to pay to him \$500 for mesne profits from the 15th March, 1900.

By their answer the defendants deny that the plaintiff let to them the house at a rental of \$85 per Chinese month on a monthly tenancy, save as appears in their answer. They admit that on the 15th February, 1900, they received the notice to quit and deliver up possession of the house on the 15th March, 1900, and that they disregarded the notice and still retain possession of the house. The answer then proceeds as follows:—

"5. And for a further answer the defendant firm says that it entered into possession of the aforesaid premises 19 Jervois Street on or about the 18th October, 1895, under or by virtue of a certain lease or agreement for lease for the said premises for a term of 30 years from October, 1895, made in favour of the defendant firm by the plaintiff under the name of Lee Fuk Yuen Tong and by him executed in his firm name Cheung Lung.

"6. The rent made payable by the defendant firm under the said lease or agreement for lease was \$72 per Chinese month and in addition one half-dollar shoe money per Chinese month.

"7. The defendant firm duly paid the said monthly rent of \$72 and one half-dollar for shoe money from the 18th day of October, 1895, to the 11th day of March, 1899, and the plaintiff duly accepted the same.

"8. In or about the month of January, 1899, the defendant firm having mislaid the said lease or agreement for lease so executed as aforesaid so informed the plaintiff, and asked him to furnish the defendant firm with a copy thereof, but the plaintiff declared that he had lost his copy of the said lease or agreement for lease, and on or about the 12th day of March, 1899, wrongfully required the defendant firm to pay thereafter rent for the said premises at the rate of \$85 per Chinese month or in the alternative to give up possession thereof.

"9. The defendant firm, fearing lest under the circumstances it should be unable successfully to resist a suit for the recovery of the said premises, paid the said wrongful demand of \$85 per Chinese month on the 9th day of April, 1899, and continued to pay after the said wrongful rate, under protest, until the 30th day of January, 1900, since which date it has tendered and offered to pay the rent reserved by the said lease or agreement for lease as aforesaid, but the plaintiff has positively refused to accept the same."

For the purposes of the present motion it must be taken that the statements made in the answer are true or at any rate may be true. The effect then of the pleadings is that the defendants, being tenants of the premises in question under a lease for a term of 30 years from October, 1895, granted to them by the plaintiff, with a rent reserved of \$72.50 per Chinese month, and having lost the lease, were in March, 1899, required by the plaintiff either to pay an increased rent of \$85 per Chinese month or to give up possession of the premises. On the facts stated in the answer it must be taken that the plaintiff was well aware of the existence of the lease and therefore that he was doing a wrongful act in treating it as non-existent. Instead of resisting this demand, as, on their statement of the facts, they ought to have done, the defendants paid the increased rent under protest and continued to do so for some ten months. Now, it is quite clear on this state of facts that there has been no surrender of the lease by the act and agreement of the parties. But it is contended for the plaintiff that the conduct of the defendants amounts to a surrender by act and operation of law of the lease and the acceptance of a new demise as monthly tenants; that they are therefore now in possession of the premises under a monthly tenancy; that that tenancy has been determined by a proper notice to quit; and that the plaintiff is consequently entitled on the pleadings to judgment for the recovery of possession of the premises.

ment for the recovery of possession of the premises.

The case cited by the plaintiff's counsel in support of his motion is *Lyon v. Reed*, 13 M. & W. 285. The facts of that case are long and somewhat complicated and I need not state them here. The effect of the judgment—which is described in 2 Sm. L.C. 815 as a "profoundly elaborate" one—is thus stated in Woodfall's Law of Landlord and Tenant, p. 317:—"The term 'surrender by operation of law' is properly applied to cases where the owner of a particular estate has been party to some act having some other object than that of a surrender, but which object cannot be effected whilst the particular estate continues, and the validity of which act he is by law estopped from disputing. Such surrender is the act of the law, and takes place independently of, and even in spite of, the intention of the parties. It is presumed to have preceded the act to which the tenant is party. The acts in pais which bind parties by way of estoppel are acts of notoriety, not less formal and solemn than the execution of a deed, as, for instance, livery, entry, acceptance of an estate, and the like." At p. 221 of the same treatise there occur the following observations on the subject of estoppel:—"Indentures of lease for years sometimes enure by way of estoppel, which word signifies an impediment or bar to a man's invalidating his own solemn act. Estoppels in general are not favoured; they continue no longer on either party than during the lease or during any renewed tenancy; they ought to be mutual, otherwise neither party is bound by them."

The law then is clear that "if a lease be granted to an individual, and there be a subsequent demise of the premises by parol to the same person, that will amount to a surrender of his lease;" per Holroyd, J., in *Thomas v. Cook*, 2 B. v. Ald, at p. 122; 20 R. R. 376.

If we apply these principles to the present case as it stands now, it will be seen that they do not warrant the conclusion that in March, 1899, there was a surrender of the lease by act and operation of law. To adopt the language of Parke, B., in *Lyon v. Reed* *supra* at p. 307, the act of the defendants in remaining in possession and paying the increased rent was "an act which, like any other ordinary act in pais, is capable of being explained, and its effect must therefore depend, not on any legal consequences necessarily attaching on and arising out of the act itself, but on the intention of the parties." Here the pleadings leave the intention of the parties in doubt or rather in dispute. The plaintiff on his part alleges the creation of a monthly tenancy in March, 1899. The defendants on their part deny this and allege that they were lessees for a considerable term of years, that they only paid the increased rent demanded by the plaintiff because they were in a difficult position on account of the loss of their document of title, and that they paid such rent under protest. If this is so, their conduct is quite consistent with the position, not that they accepted a new demise of the premises at a monthly tenancy, and so put an end to their lease, but that they continued in possession under the lease, only paying an increased rent for the sake of quietness and in order not to run the risk of a law suit. How the facts may turn out after evidence has been taken I am of course unable to say, but as they are alleged on the pleadings I am of opinion that the plaintiff has not succeeded in establishing his present contention. The motion must therefore be refused.

Throughout this judgment the term "the plaintiff" has reference to the original plaintiff Li Wun.

Mr. Slade submitted that the burden of proving whether there was a lease or not lay with his learned friend. They were agreed at the previous hearing that the question was lease or no lease.

Mr. Robinson agreed with this and proceeded to open. He said the main facts of the case were already pretty well-known to his Lordship, and he would only very briefly set out the details of his case. His contention was that a lease for 30 years was granted to the defendant in October, 1895. The premises were burned down in April, 1895, and loss of life was occasioned by the fire. The premises were re-built and stood vacant for some time. His clients' manager saw a notice on the premises

to apply to the Cheung Loong firm for the leasing of the premise. He saw the master of the Cheung Loong firm and entered into negotiations with him for the leasing of the premises. The terms were easily settled with the exception of the term of years. Thirty years was ultimately agreed upon, and a lease for 30 years was drawn up, the amount to be paid per month being \$72.50. This went on until the beginning of 1899, when the manager of the defendant firm discovered that his copy of the lease was lost. He asked Li Wun for another copy. Li Wun replied that he had lost his copy too, but that he could make out a new rent book. Accordingly the following Monday a new rent book was made out and the first payment of \$72.50 entered in it. When this was paid the master of the Cheung Loong informed the accountant of the Wing Fung Tai that an increased rent would have to be paid in the future. Upon this the manager of the Wing Fung Tai went to the master of the Cheung Loong and protested against the proposed increase, but he was unable to make any alteration. After this the defendant firm paid at the rate of \$85 per month until the lease was found in an envelope which contained a policy of insurance.

The Chief Justice—When was it found exactly?

Mr. Robinson said he did not know the exact date, but he thought it was in January or February, 1900. Accordingly, when the next rent was paid it was paid at the rate of \$72½ per month. The master of the Cheung Loong, however, refused to accept this sum. In March, 1900, a writ of summons was issued, and within a few days afterwards the lease was registered at the Land Office.

Evidence in support of Mr. Robinson's statement was lead.

The hearing was adjourned.

Thursday, 17th January.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

LI SHEUNG V. THE WING FUNG TAI FIRM.

In this case the plaintiff sued the defendant for recovery of possession of the tenement No. 19, Jervois Street; \$500 for mesne profits; and also claimed costs.

Mr. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Robinson (instructed by Mr. Holmes) for the defendants.

The evidence for the plaintiff was continued and the hearing was further adjourned.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. V. ROYAL NAVY.

The state of the ground prevented a start in this match being made on the 11th inst., and the weather conditions on the 12th were not of the best. A heavy mist made the light very bad all through the game and especially during the last hour of play. On a soft but not difficult wicket, the Navy opened with Strong and Mayhew, the pair that knocked off the runs in the United Services match a few weeks ago. By careful play the score was taken to 39, when Strong was brilliantly caught by Cox at long on. Another wicket fell at 40, which brought Hickley and Noble together in a partnership that made things look rosy for the Navy. Where only 53 runs had been notched in an hour's play, matters livened up a bit and the score was 92 at tiffin, as the result of nearly 90 minutes' cricket. After the interval, forcing tactics prevailed and hitting was the game. At 128 Hickley got under a ball and Cox closed on it cleverly. The commander's contribution of 38 was marked by good cutting and leg and off placing: if he were on a fast wicket he would probably prove a big stumbling-block to local bowlers. At 140 three wickets fell. It was left to Ross and Elliott to stay with Noble till he had made a century, at the end of which he was capitally taken by Dyson, who also dismissed Elliott with a fine catch after a valuable, hard-hit innings. Upon getting set, Noble hit admirably, and after tiffin punished the bowling freely. He carried out to the letter his instructions to force the game and naturally ran risks in so doing.

Fortunately for himself and his side, the Club was not in a catch-holding mood. At 229 for 9 wickets the innings was declared closed, Smith and Higgon being the least unsuccessful bowlers. About 3.15 the Club began to bat. One for 9 and two for 15 looked ominous, but three for 89 looked more hopeful: this better aspect was put on affairs by Maitland and Dyson. Joss and muscle enabled the former to compile a very useful 50. Twenty runs later Dyson was well bowled for a "highly commended" 38. This player is showing his true form this season in playing not a few sterling innings. When Dyson left, Vallombrosas leaves were rivalled in their fall by the rapidity with which the remaining 6 wickets tumbled for 34 runs. Franklin was the agent, being ably assisted by the pitch and the light. In the result the Club were beaten by 82 runs. A "conqueror" must be arranged before the season is much older. Elliot and Franklin both had excellent analyses, and the R. N. fielding, though not so good as we have sometimes seen it, was ahead of that of the Club, the *Barfleur* trio appearing to be the pick of the field. Yesterday and to-day the R.W.F. are playing the full strength of the Club, and revive a happy tradition of local cricket. By the courtesy of Rear-Admiral Bruce and the Captains and Officers, a combined band, composed of men from H.M.S. *Barfleur*, *Undaunted* and *Orlando* attended and played a pleasing selection. The *Barfleurs* were also good enough to provide afternoon tea on the ground.

Appended are the score and analysis:—

THE NAVY.

Lieut. Strong, c Cox, b Sercombe Smith	22
Lieut. Mayhew, l.b.w., Higgon	17
Com. Hickley, c Cox, b Sercombe Smith	33
Lieut. Noble, c Dyson, b Sercombe Smith	100
Rev. Salisbury, c Maitland, b Higgon	2
Mr. Franklin, b Higgon	0
Mr. E. Smith, run out	0
Lieut. Ross, c Cox, b Mackenzie	17
Mr. Elliott, c Dyson, b Mackenzie	22
Lieut. Legard, not out	1
Mr. Thurston, did not bat.	
Extras	5

Total (for 9 wickets) ... 224

H.K.C.C.

Capt. Ainslie, c E. Smith, b Elliott	4
F. Maitland, c Hickley, b Thurston	50
Lieut. Lumb, c Legard, b Elliott	2
Major Dyson, b Elliott	33
Lieut. Kriekenbeek, b Franklin	12
Lt. Higgon, st Legard, b Franklin	2
P. A. Cox, b Franklin	16
T. Sercombe Smith, c Elliott, b Franklin	3
A. Mackenzie, b Elliott	5
Major Radcliffe, not out	4
Mr. D. Wood, c Elliott, b Franklin	0
Extras	6

Total ... 142

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

THE NAVY.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Sercombe Smith	25	8	63	3
Kriekenbeek	9	1	31	0
Higgon	19	1	73	3
Mackenzie	5.5	0	29	2
Cox	3	0	15	0
Radcliffe	2	0	14	0

H.K.C.C.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Franklin	15.5	2	41	5
Elliott	19	3	36	4
Salisbury	3	0	22	0
Strong	4	0	15	0
Thurston	6	0	22	1

It is stated that H.M. cruiser *Cressy* (which, it will be remembered, has been mentioned as likely to come out to the China Station), although she has experienced one or two slight mishaps, has satisfied the Admiralty officials during her trials off Plymouth. Her contractors' trials are now practically completed. In an eight hours' full-power trial on the 8th ult. a mean speed of 22 knots was recorded, and during one portion of the run she registered nearly 26 knots. The *Cressy* was to remain at Plymouth for two experimental trials. One was to be a full-power trial of four hours' duration, and the other was to consist of six runs over a long sea course off the Cornish coast at a speed of 18 knots. On her way up Channel the *Cressy* was to carry out the trials of her auxiliary machinery.

FOOTBALL.

H.K.A.F.C. V. H.M.S. "TERRIBLE."

These teams met at Happy Valley on Monday afternoon, when the following were the players:—

Club:—Goal—Wood; backs—Porter and Looker; half-backs—Beattie, Bonnar, and Von der Pfordten; forwards—Lowe, Lee, Noble, Tullock, and Clapham.

Terrible:—Goal—Watson; backs—Bartlett and England; half-backs—Jones, Forbes, and Hardy; forwards—Butler, Jones, Holden, Danzie, and Clemens.

The club started the play, and half a minute later, Noble, receiving a pass from Clapham, opened the scoring. Centred, the ball again became club property, Lowe footing it and passing judiciously to Lee. A tussle ensued, and the *Terribles* conceded a corner on the right wing, which was unproductive. A dangerous shot was well stopped by Hardy, and Clemens took up the play for his side. Well supported by the other forwards, he carried the game into club territory. Holden got the pass and shot, but the ball was not followed up and was allowed by Wood to roll past. A corner on the *Terrible's* left wing was sent over the bar. From the goal kick Clemens and Danzie got possession, but a good sprint by the former was stopped by Porter. Lowe took up the play, and shot. The ball, cleverly returned by Watson, was sent back a few seconds later by Noble, and once more fisted out. Relieving a rather dangerous pressure, Jones and Butler transferred the leather to the other end of the field. The former passed to Holden, who sent in a long shot from well out that Wood, probably under the impression it was going past, allowed to drop into the net. This equalised matters. Some hard play followed, and the *Terrible's* half-backs blocked numerous rushes by the club forwards. Defeating the defence, Lee sent in a ball that, had it been sent just ever so slightly to the left, would have gone home. As it was, the ball struck the post and bounded back. Following on even play in centre, the *Terrible's* left wing carried the leather inside the club's defence line. A shy against the ground eleven resulted, and from this slight advantage Jones recorded a second goal for the bluejackets. Just as the half-time whistle sounded, the *Terrible's* forwards were successful, from some forced play, in again defeating Wood, and netted the ball for the third time.

Half-time—*Terrible*, 3; Club, 1.

The resumption of the game saw play for a period confined to mid-field, but a break-away by the club forwards resulted in their topping the net. Bartlett and England showed up well in this half, and fed their forwards splendidly. Butler, receiving a pass from centre, proved himself a tricky player on the ball, and got the better of Lee, who tried to take possession. Lowe had better luck, however, and a visit was paid to bluejacket territory. The leather was relinquished to Clapham, and some tough work on his wing was followed by a corner for the club, which Clapham sent in. Making good use of a slight opening, Danzie emerged with the ball at his feet, but a bye was his only reward. A soul against the *Terrible* for an illegal charge gave the club forwards an opportunity to get away—an opportunity they utilised to such good purpose that Lee was enabled to add another point to their score. Noble captured from the centre kick, and breaking down all opposition, the club forwards worked their way past the *Terrible's* defences and once more netted the ball, Lee again sending it home. This equalised the score, and with the object of gaining the winning point, both sides played with renewed vigour. From this the *Terrible* ultimately emerged victorious, their centre-forward, Holden, sending in a shot that Wood could not save.

Result—*Terrible*, 4; Club, 3.

The import firms at Bangkok have banded themselves together, under the style of "The Union Importers," to protect their interests. The Union resolved on the 14th December to abide by certain conditions as regards promissory notes for the value of imported goods, and to allow only three per cent. discount on cash sales for payment within one week.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The race for the Cup presented by officers of the Royal Engineers was sailed for on Sunday last, the course being Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rocks, Meyer's East buoy, Stonecutter's Island and North Fairway buoy, leaving all to port except Meyer's Buoy. Distance 15 miles.

Handicap.

Alannah	Active	7 min.
Iris	Dart	10 "
Bonito	Ladybird	12 "
Maid Marian	Sybil	18 "
Chanticleer	Sayonara	20 "
Meteor	Thistle	20 "
Gloria		
Doreen		

A start was made in a fresh easterly wind *Chanticleer* starting from close to the Pier and getting the best of it, was clear ahead of the others and stood on to Meyer's Buoy, where she made a few short boards before again crossing to Channel Rocks, which she reached first. In this she must be reckoned lucky, as *Meteor*, who was close behind at Meyer's buoy, was left there in a calm and never could get on terms with the remainder. *Alannah* worked out a clear lead of the remainder, followed by *Iris* and then *Bonito*, who seems to have quite lost her form. The wind was now very light and shifty and Channel Rocks were rounded as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.		H.	M.	S.
Chanticleer	12	48	15	Active	12	57	8
Alannah	12	50	5	Dart	1	1	0
Iris	12	52	52	Meteor	1	1	50
Bonito	12	54	27	Ladybird			
Gloria	12	55	12	Sybil			
Doreen	12	56	24	Sayonara			
Maid Marian	12	56	49				

On the run down to Kowloon Rocks the wind died out for a time and the rock was rounded as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.		H.	M.	S.
Alannah	1	11	33	Dart	1	21	45
Chanticleer	1	16	19	Doreen	1	21	50
Iris	1	17	50	Meteor	1	22	30
Active	1	21	0	Ladybird	1	26	35
Gloria	1	21	10	Sayonara	1	29	23
Maid Marian	1	21	12	Sybil	1	29	27
Bonito	1	21	35				

The *Sybil* had been aground shortly after the start on the sunken wall between the Police Pier and Blackhead's. Hardly a boat in the lot that has not been on it one time or another, so no one can be surprised at a new comer having found it. The reach to Meyer's buoy was without incident and it was rounded as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.		H.	M.	S.
Alannah	1	45	52	Maid Marian	1	54	50
Iris	1	46	43	Ladybird	1	54	36
Chanticleer	1	47	5	Meteor	1	55	0
Gloria	1	50	3	Dart	1	56	12
Bonito	1	51	46	Doreen	1	56	54
Active	1	54	38	Sybil	1	58	35
				Sayonara	1	59	22

On the run down to the line *Iris* and *Chanticleer* for some unknown reason elected to sail right into Hung Hom Bay and *Gloria*, who sailed straight down, got across the line ahead of them and almost level with *Alannah*, the *Bonito* only a few yards behind and the rest in a bunch a couple of hundred yards further back. Here was a flat calm but after a few minutes a light north-westerly wind began. As the yachts caught it in succession in the order in which they crossed the line, the distances between them increased. *Alannah* sailing wonderfully drew out a long lead by the time Stonecutter's was reached and *Bonito* passed *Chanticleer* and *Iris*, and inside Stonecutter's all three passed *Gloria*. *Chanticleer* out in the centre of the channel got a freshening north-west air first, and slipped away from *Iris* and *Bonito*. Nothing calling for notice occurred on the run home and the finishing times are:—

	H.	M.	S.
Alannah (winner)	4	27	33
Chanticleer	4	38	45
Gloria	4	40	44
Iris	4	40	49
Bonito	4	41	9
Maid Marian	4	44	57
Meteor	4	49	5
Active	4	52	39
Sybil	5	1	55
Ladybird	5	7	29
Doreen	5	13	40
Dart	5	23	21
Sayonara (did not finish)			

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MACWEEN CUP, BOGEY CUP, AND POOL.

In good golfing weather and with the greens not too keen, members turned out in force for the quarterly meeting. The present holder of the Club Championship was once more in fine form and succeeded in taking all three prizes. He defeated "The Colonel" by 2 holes and for the MacEwen his rounds were 40 and 37 made up as follows:—1st round—4, 4, 6, 5, 3, 5, 4, 4—40; 2nd round—6, 4, 3, 5, 3, 5, 4, 3, 4—37. Total 77.

MACWEEN CUP.

Mr. T. S. Forrest	...	77	0	77
Mr. P. A. Cox	...	94	16	78
Mr. W. J. Saunders	...	91	12	79
Mr. H. W. Robertson	...	93	10	83
Col. Luke, R.M.L.I.	...	93	10	83
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	...	84	0	84
Lt. A. J. M. Grieve, R.N.	...	87	2	85
Mr. W. J. Gresson	...	101	16	85
Com. H. J. Davison, R.N.	...	106	13	93

(18 entries.)

BOGEY CUP.

Mr. T. S. Forrest	...	2 up	Scratch
Lieut. R. L. Field, R.N.	...	1 down rec.	8 strokes
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	...	2	Scratch
Mr. P. A. Cox	...	3	12 strokes
Mr. H. W. Robertson	...	3	8
Mr. S. Fulcher	...	4	12
Mr. R. L. Richardson	...	5	13
Mr. E. J. Grist	...	5	9
Com. H. J. Davison, R.N.	...	10	10

(17 entries.)

POOL.

Mr. T. S. Forrest	...	77	0	77
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	...	84	0	84
Lt. A. J. M. Grieve, R.N.	...	86	2	84
Mr. R. L. Richardson	...	101	17	84
Mr. E. J. Grist	...	99	12	87
Mr. P. A. Cox	...	103	16	87
Com. H. J. Davison, R.N.	...	106	13	93

(14 entries.)

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

"A" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The tenth shoot of the present series took place at Kwloon on the 13th inst., when Bomb. P. P. J. Wodehouse scored his first win on the No. 1 and his second on the No. 2 cup.

The following are the best scores:—

	200	500	600	H'cap.	Tl.
Bomb. Wodehouse	28	32	26	9	95
Gun. Hursthouse	22	30	31	12	85
Corpl. W. King	23	29	22	10	84
Gun. C. G. Danby	25	24	14	21	84
Captain Sanders	21	26	20	14	81
Lieut. Fullerton	28	15	19	15	77

THE GILLIES' CUP.

The fourth competition for this Cup took place on the Association Range, thirteen members competing. The following were the best scores:—

	200	500	600	H'cap.	Total.
Gunner Baldwin	30	34	29	1	94
Sergeant Graham	32	34	25	sc.	91
Gunner Duncan	27	31	24	7	89
Gunner Chunnnett	18	31	23	15	87
Sergeant Stewart	27	32	27	sc.	86
Sergeant Rutter	26	27	24	8	85
Gunner Lapsley	31	31	19	2	83
Sapper Pullen	17	24	25	8	74

With regard to the movements of the Chinese Court, there is now a new rumour, given in the *Universal Gazette*, that the Empress-Dowager will accompany the Emperor on his return as far as Kaifengfu, where she will remain until peace negotiations have reached a satisfactory termination, after which she will return to the capital. A friend from Hsianfu reports to the *Universal Gazette* that there are now three men who wield predominant influence and direct the course of affairs at the Court. These are Lu Chuanlin, Wang Wenshao, and Governor Tseng Chunhsuan. The former is said to be very imperious, requiring everything to bend to his will and allowing himself to be influenced in public affairs by personal spite and grudges. Governor Tseng has also a distinctly aggressive spirit. Fortunately Wang Wenshao is well adapted to act as mediator and prevent collisions between the two. The Chinese are wont to describe Wang as "a glass ball," meaning that he is easily seen through and has no inconvenient corners.

AMOY RACES.

Amoy, 10th January.

FIRST DAY'S WINNERS.

CONSULAR CUP.—Mr. Mansfield's *Ace of Hearts*.FLYAWAY STAKES.—Mr. G. Hutton Pott's *Bewitchment*.E MUNG KANG PLATE.—Mr. Mansfield's *Ante*.CHAASZE CUP.—Mr. Evelyn's *Polka*.HAEKWAN CUP.—Mr. Thomas's *Smut*.AMOY STAKES.—Mr. Marshall's *Hope*.

Amoy, 11th January.

SECOND DAY'S WINNERS.

STEWARDS' CUP.—Mr. Dorset's *Flyaway*.RACING STAKES.—Mr. Evelyn's *Tarantala*.CHALLENGE CUP.—Mr. Marshall's *Hope*.COMPEADOBES' CUP.—Mr. Thomas's *Smut*.CLUB CUP.—Mr. G. H. Potts's *Tocsin*.KULANGSU STAKES.—Mr. Mansfield's *Ante*.ARGONAUT CUP.—Mr. Mansfield's *Ace of Hearts*.

Amoy, 12th January.

THIRD DAY'S WINNERS.

LEDGER CUP.—Mr. Mansfield's *Ace of Hearts*.PARI-MUTUAL CUP.—Mr. Dorset's *Flyaway*.LADIES' PURSE.—Mr. Evelyn's *Polka*.LOTIARY CUP.—Mr. Bruce's *Merry Thought*.CONSOLATION CUP.—Mr. Rounseville Wildman's *Thistle*.CHAMPION STAKES.—Mr. Marshall's *Hope* 1, Mr. Mansfield's *Ace of Hearts* 2, and Mr. Evelyn's *Tarantala* 3. Time 2.45 4/5.

CRICKET AT AMOY.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

The following rubber of matches has been played on the small but picturesque ground at Kulangsu, between the Officers of H.M.S. *Argonaut* and Amoy:—

1ST MATCH.

Played on the 6th December. Result—Amoy won by 147 runs.

H.M.S. "ARGONAUT."

Rev. A. J. Dexter, b Marshall	...	12
Lt. Lindesay, R.M.L.I., c Thomas, b Pratt	...	7
Lieut. Mullenoux, b Simpson	...	18
Mr. Fellowes, c and b Marshall	...	7
Second-Lieut. St. Clair, c and b Simpson	...	6
Mr. Wilshin, c and b Marshall	...	0
Mr. Hearn, c Danby, b Simpson	...	2
Mr. Stubbs, c Keay, b Marshall	...	0
Mr. Thomas, b Simpson	...	6
Mr. Taylor, not out	...	5
Capt. Hawkins, R.M.L.I., c Thomas, b Marshall	...	0
Extras	...	1

Total 64

AMOY.

W. Milward, b Mullenoux	...	17
E. Thomas, c St. Clair, b Mullenoux	...	0
C. L. Simpson, c St. Clair, b Thomas	...	55
J. T. Pratt, b Mullenoux	...	0
F. B. Marshall, c Dexter, b Lindesay	...	7
E. H. Low, b Mullenoux	...	10
W. E. Keay, b Fellowes	...	4
W. Wilson, b Mullenoux	...	36
J. J. Dunne, c Stubbs, b Thomas	...	10
J. D. Danby, c Thomas, b Mullenoux	...	41
J. Phillips, not out	...	17
Extras	...	14

Total 211

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

INNS. OF H.M.S. "ARGONAUT."

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Marshall	10	4	18	5
Pratt	6	0	29	1
Simpson	4	1	16	4

INNS. OF AMOY.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Mullenoux	13.3	0	50	6
Hawkins	2	1	23	0
Fellowes	9	1	39	1
Lindesay	4	0	18	1
St. Clair	1	0	6	0
Thomas	4	0	25	2
Dexter	6	0	36	0

2ND MATCH.

Played on the 15th December. Result—H.M.S. *Argonaut* won by 114 runs.

AMOY.

C. L. Simpson, run out	...	5
W. Milward, b Mullenoux	...	2
J. D. Danby, c Brown, b Mullenoux	...	7
F. G. Kell, st Brown, b Hawkins	...	18
J. T. Pratt, b Mullenoux	...	3

F. B. Marshall, b Hawkins	...	1
E. Thomas, not out	...	30
J. J. Dunne, b Hawkins	...	0
W. E. Keay, c Lindesay, b Fellowes	...	3
E. L. Simpson, c Mullenoux, b St. Clair	...	5
J. Phillips, b St. Clair	...	0
Extras	...	8

Total 80

H.M.S. "ARGONAUT."

Lieut. Brown, c Keay, b C. L. Simpson	...	28
Rev. A. J. Dexter, c Keay, b Marshall	...	81
Lt. Mullenoux, c Thomas, b C. L. Simpson	...	21
Lieut. Lindesay, R.M.L.I., b Marshall	...	4
Capt. Hawkins, R.M.L.I., c Simpson, b Keay	...	18
Lt. Brandreth, c E. L. Simpson, b Marshall	...	0
Second-Lieut. St. Clair, c E. L. Simpson, b Marshall	...	16
Mr. Taylor, b Kell	...	3
Mr. Fellowes, c and b Kell	...	7
Mr. M. Coppin, b Kell	...	3
Mr. Jones, not out	...	5
Extras	...	8

Total 194

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

INNS. OF AMOY.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Hawkins	10	3	37	3
Mullenoux	7	1	17	3
Fellowes	5	0	11	1
St. Clair	2.2	1	8	2
Lindesay	1	0	1	0

INNS. OF H.M.S. "ARGONAUT."

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Marshall	15	0	92	4
Pratt	6	0	39	0
C. L. Simpson	9	0	35	2
Kell	7	0	8	3
Keay	3	0	12	1

3RD MATCH.

Played on the 1st January, 1901. Result—Amoy won by 50 runs.

AMOY.

E. Thomas, c Fellowes, b Mullenoux	...	10
W. Wilson, b Hawkins	...	0
C. L. Simpson, c Mullenoux, b Hawkins	...	16
E. H. Low, st Brown, b Lindesay	...	16
J. T. Pratt, b Fellowes	...	38
F. B. Marshall, b Coppin	...	61
F. G. Kell, not out	...	55
W. E. Keay, c Brown, b Mullenoux	...	5
J. D. Danby, b Mullenoux	...	0
J. J. Dunne, b Coppin	...	0
E. L. Simpson, c Coppin	...	11
Extras	...	21

Total 239

H.M.S. "ARGONAUT."

Lieut. Brown, c Keay, b Marshall	...	4
Rev. A. J. Dexter, c Thomas, b Kell	...	3
Lieut. Mullenoux, c Danby, b Kell	...	78
Mr. Fellowes, c Dunne, b Marshall	...	0
Capt. Hawkins, R.M.L.I., b Pratt	...	26
Second-Lieut. St. Clair, c and b Low	...	17
Mr. Coppin, c E. L. Simpson, b Marshall	...	12
Mr. Thomas, c Keay, b Low	...	0
Mr. Jones, c Danby, b Pratt	...	30
Mr. Stobart, c Thomas, b Low	...	2
Lieut. Lindesay, R.M.L.I., not out	...	3
Extras	...	8

Total 183

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

INNS. OF AMOY.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Mullenoux	16	4	41	3
Hawkins	11	3	45	2
Fellowes	7	0	41	1
Lindesay	3	0	21	1
Coppin	12.2	3	50	3
Thomas	2	0	14	0

INNS. OF H.M.S. "ARGONAUT."

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Marshall	18	2	52	3
Kell	12	4	25	2
Low	12	0	49	3
C. L. Simpson	5	0	24	0
Pratt	5	0	25	2

The Pahang Estimates for the first year of the new century show:—Revenue, \$410,231; expenditure, \$776,177. The principal items of estimated receipts appear under customs, \$148,285; licenses, \$127,015; forests, \$48,515; and lands and mines, \$39,660. On the expenditure side the following main heads appear:—Personal emoluments to Government officers, \$230,397; other charges (allowances, etc., and several additional services too numerous to specify)—\$139,818; roads, streets, and bridges, \$101,100; interest on loans obtained from other Governments, \$96,000; works and buildings, \$84,285; salaries and allowances to native chiefs, \$82,078; Pahang share of Federal charges, \$24,000; and miscellaneous services, \$18,075.

SHANHAIKWAN.

THE RAILWAY.

A correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes on the 26th December as follows:—

It is announced here that the railway is to be handed back to Mr. Kinder on the 14th of January. That gentleman will have no light task before him, for the Russians have taken away, both from Tongshan and Shanhaikwan, everything they could lay their hands on in the shape of railway plant, stores and materials. From Tongshan they have actually removed all the new machinery from the new workshops, and the British authorities must have found it rather irksome to look on and be prevented by high policy from interfering.

At the Shanhaikwan Bridge Works they have not even left a hammer or a pot of paint in the way of stores. At both places only the bare walls are left, and experts tell me that the Russians have secured at least fifty thousand pounds' worth of material.

THE BRIDGE WORKS

should at least, one would think, have been defended by the British authorities, for they were entirely occupied with construction work, and had nothing to do with the open line, all the stores and material for which were drawn from Tongshan only. General Reed was no doubt acting under orders when he allowed this, for I am told that he was fully informed of the facts, and it cannot have been pleasant to him to sit still and allow the British bondholders' property to be "conveyed" like this.

BRIDGE BUILDING.

Passing through Tongshan I learnt that the Russians have been trying ever since the first week in October to repair the Hanku Bridge, and have at last come to the conclusion that it is impossible to repair it this winter. It will be interesting to see how soon Mr. Kinder has trains running over it.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The *P. & T. Times* of the 29th ult. contains the following items:—

It is reported from Peking that Li Hung-chang is dying with influenza.

The river has opened again contrary to expectation, and the weather has been exceptionally mild the last ten days. It seems possible that we may repeat the winter of two years ago.

The Boxers have been collecting at Ching-hai again and calling themselves Christians, but when a native Christian went the other day with twelve men to arrest some Boxers, the professing Christians turned on them and killed seven of the party.

The Germans and Japanese are reconnoitring the west bank of the Peiho between here and Taku for river pirates and Boxers. It is reported the Japanese lost two men at Hsiao-chun, this week.

Last week various more or less startling reports were current about Chinese forces supposed to be approaching from various quarters. But the cavalry and artillery both went out for a considerable distance without seeing any signs of enemy.

On the 20th, a party of French soldiers 100 strong left here for Huangtsa, a village 20 miles west of Tientsin, to search for arms. When the French arrived outside the village and were crossing the frozen creek which surrounded it, several Boxers opened fire, killing Lieut. Contal of the Marine Infantry and wounding another officer. The French drove the Chinese out killing many, and burned the village.

On the 22nd, a party of French attacked 2,500 armed Chinese at Cho-chow, between Peking and Paotingfu, driving them towards Kuanhsien. As the latter place is towards the Peking-Tientsin line a strong force of British left here on Thursday and Friday, for Yangtsun, composed of 1,200 infantry and cavalry with 2 guns, 1 pompon and a maxim under Major-General Cummins, with 10 days rations. The British force, in conjunction with French will no doubt scour the country in the vicinity of Yangtsun.

The *Pingang Gazette* newspaper and press have passed into the hands of a syndicate with a capital of \$70,000. Mr. J. Kennedy, the former proprietor of the concern, has an interest in the venture.

A HONGKONG CASE BEFORE THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

HARDOON V. BELILIOS.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on the 8th ult. delivered judgment in the above case. It was an appeal from the judgment of the Supreme Court of Hongkong of February 28, 1899, affirming a decision of the Chief Justice.

Mr. Latham, Q.C., and Mr. Whinney were counsel for the appellant; Mr. Joseph Walton, Q.C., and Mr. R. J. Parker for the respondent.

The arguments were recently heard before a board composed of Lord Hobhouse, Lord Robertson, Lord Lindley, Sir Francis Jeune, and Sir Ford North, when judgment was reserved.

Lord Lindley, in now delivering their Lordships' judgment, said the question raised by the appeal was whether the plaintiff, who was the registered holder of some shares in a banking company which was being wound up, was entitled to be indemnified by the defendant, who was the beneficial owner of such shares against calls made upon them in the winding up. The Courts of Hongkong had decided against the plaintiff on the evidence adduced by him and had entered judgment of non-suit. The defendant adduced no evidence, it did not become necessary for him to do so. The Chief Justice, who first heard the case, decided that the defendant was the sole beneficial owner of the shares, but that the plaintiff had failed to prove any contract by defendant to indemnify him—either express or implied. On appeal the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Wise considered that although the defendant had become the sole beneficial owner of the shares the relation of trustee and *cestui que trust* had not been created between the plaintiff and the defendant and that the defendant had not become liable to indemnify the plaintiff. Against those decisions the plaintiff had appealed to the board. The facts of the case so far as they were material were shortly as follows:—The bank in question was formed and registered with limited liability under the Companies Act, 1862. Its capital was divided into shares, which were not fully paid up when it went into liquidation in December, 1894. Calls had been made on the contributories, of whom the plaintiff was one. He was a contributory in respect of 50 £10 shares. He had been sued by the liquidator for the calls made on him in respect of those shares, and judgment had been given against him for £402 12s. 11d., which he sought to recover from the defendant. The 50 shares in question were placed in the plaintiff's name in April, 1891, by his then employers, Benjamin and Kelly, who were sharebrokers. The plaintiff never had any beneficial interest in them; but he was registered as their holder on April 3, 1891. A provisional certificate of his ownership was made out and he signed a blank transfer of them, and those two documents were held by Benjamin and Kelly, who paid the application and allotment money and first call. That certificate and transfer afterwards came into the hands of one Coxon, who acted on behalf of a syndicate formed to speculate in shares in another company. The defendant financed that syndicate, and the provisional certificate and blank transfer of the 50 shares in question were, with other securities, pledged by Coxon, with the defendant as security for his advances. In October, 1891, the plaintiff's provisional certificate was exchanged for an ordinary certificate, which the defendant had ever since held. In March, 1892, dividends were paid on those shares, and the defendant, as holder of the shares, demanded the dividends from the plaintiff for them and received them from him. The operations of the syndicate resulted in considerable loss. Their accounts with the defendant were closed, and in October, 1892, the defendant became the absolute owner of the shares. That at least was the conclusion arrived at by both Courts in Hongkong from the entries in the defendant's books, and there were no grounds on which the board could come to any different conclusion. In November, 1893, a call of £1 per share was made, payable by four instalments of 5s. each. The first three were, at the plaintiff's request, paid by the defendant to him and by him to the bank. The defendant said he was not liable to pay them, and in his books he debited the plaintiff with

those payments, but there was no evidence that the plaintiff was informed of that. The fact that at that time the defendant did not debit Coxon with those calls seemed to their Lordships very strong evidence that at that time Coxon's interest in those shares was at an end and they belonged absolutely to the defendant. On April 10, 1894, the plaintiff wrote to the defendant asking that the shares might be transferred out of his name, but the defendant declined to get that done, and the plaintiff said no more about it until June, 1894, when the fourth instalment of 5s. in respect of the call of £1 became due. The plaintiff then asked the defendant to pay that instalment and he did so, but debited the plaintiff with the amount as before. Shortly afterwards the plaintiff's solicitors wrote to the defendant and asked him to have the shares transferred out of the plaintiff's name, but the defendant declined, saying that the shares were lodged with him by Coxon, who was absent from the colony. Further correspondence took place after calls had been made by the liquidator on the plaintiff as already stated, but the defendant refused to indemnify the plaintiff and the present action was commenced. It appeared from the evidence as it stood that the defendant became in October, 1892, the sole beneficial owner of those shares, the legal title to which was vested in the plaintiff. Assuming that to be established their Lordships were at a loss to understand what more was required to create the relation of trustee and *cestui que trust* between the plaintiff and the defendant. The facts that they never stood in the relation of vendor and purchaser, that there was no contract between them, that the defendant never requested the plaintiff to become his trustee were quite immaterial. All that was necessary to establish the relation of trustee and *cestui que trust* was to prove that the legal title was in the plaintiff and the equitable title in the defendant. That might be proved in many ways. The mode of proof was quite immaterial. Being proved, no matter how, the relation of trustee and *cestui que trust* was thereby established. No one could be the beneficial owner of shares against his will. Any attempt to make him so could be defeated by disclaimer. But the moment the defendant accepted the beneficial ownership of those shares he became the plaintiff's *cestui que trust* and the plaintiff had no option in the matter. The next step was to consider on what principles an absolute beneficial owner of trust property could throw upon his trustee the burdens incidental to its ownership. The plainest principle of justice required that the *cestui que trust* who got all benefit of the property should bear its burdens unless he could show some good reason why his trustee should bear them himself. The obligation was equitable and not legal and the legal decisions negating it, unless there was some contract or custom imposing the obligation, were wholly irrelevant and beside the mark. Even where trust property was settled on tenants for life and children the right of their trustee to be indemnified out of the whole trust estate against any liabilities arising out of any part of it was clear and indisputable; although if that which was once one large trust estate had been converted by the trustees into several smaller distinct trust estates the liabilities incidental to one of them could not be thrown on the beneficial owners of the others. That was decided in "*Fraser v. Murdoch*" (6 A.C., 855). But where the only *cestui que trust* was a person *sui juris* the right of the trustee to indemnify by him against liabilities incurred by the trustee by his retention of the trust property had never been limited to the trust property; it extended further and imposed upon the *cestui que trust* a personal obligation enforceable in equity to indemnify his trustee. That was no new principle but was as old as trusts themselves. In "*Balch v. Hyham*" (2 P.W., 453) the trustee sought indemnity in equity not against a liability incidental to the ownership of the trust property but against a liability incurred by him by borrowing money at the request and for the benefit of his *cestui que trust*. The Court decided that the plaintiff was entitled in equity to the relief which he sought on the broad ground "that a *cestui qui trust* ought to save his trustee harmless as to all damages relating to the trust." That language (although open to criticism if applied to *cestui qui trust* who were not *sui*

juris and also sole beneficial owners) showed plainly enough that it was taken for granted as well settled that, speaking generally, absolute beneficial owners of property must in equity bear the burdens incidental to its ownership and not throw such burdens on their trustees. The short report of "Balsh v. Hyham" as given in 2 Eq. Ca. Ab. 741, fol. 8, showed that that general rule was well recognized and that the decision was only an illustration of its application to the facts then before the Court. It was impossible to read the judgment of Vice-Chancellor Wigram in "Phené v. Gillan" (5 Ha. 1) without coming to the conclusion that he also regarded the general rule as well established. The principle acted upon in "Balsh v. Hyham" was reconsidered and most strikingly illustrated in the well-known case of the "German Mining Co. ex parte Chippendale" (4 De. G. Mc and G., p. 19) where shareholders of a mining company were held liable personally to indemnify the directors against payments made by them in discharge of debts contracted by them but which payments created no legal obligation on the company enforceable at law and could not be recovered by the directors from the company by any action at common law. The shareholders in vain contended in that case that the directors had only a right to indemnify out of the assets of the company. Where, as in "Balsh v. Hyham," a trustee sought indemnity in respect of transactions in which he need not have engaged and which were not within the scope of his trust he must prove that his *cestui que trust* either authorized or ratified such transactions. But if he had incurred liability within the scope of his trust and for the benefit of his *cestui que trust* "Ex parte Chippendale" showed that nothing more was required. When a trustee sought indemnity from his *cestui que trust* against liabilities arising from the mere fact of ownership there was neither principle nor authority for saying that the trustee need prove any request from his *cestui que trust* to incur such liability. In the case supposed the trust involved such liabilities and the trustee whilst he remained such could not get rid of them. He was subject to them as legal owner; but in equity they fell on the equitable owner unless there were good reasons why they should not. As regarded shares the right of a trustee to be indemnified by his *cestui que trust* against calls had been repeatedly recognized and enforced on the principles applicable to the equitable ownership of property and without reference to the principles applicable to contracts or specific performance or any other legal or equitable doctrine. Nothing could be plainer or sounder than the language of Vice-Chancellor James in "Castellam v. Hobson" (L.R. 10 Eq. 47) and of Mr. Justice Chitty in "Loring v. Davis" (32 Ch. D. 634). "James v. Way" (L.R. 6 Ho. Lo. 328) proceeded on the same principle. Other cases to the same effect might be cited, but it was unnecessary to refer to them. No case had been found or as their Lordships believed could be found, which was opposed to those authorities. The principle was recognized by Mr. Justice Fry in "Hughes-Hallett v. The Indian Mammoth Gold Mines Company" (L.R., 22 Ch. D. 531), although he there held that the application for indemnity was premature. It was true that the facts of that case were not in all respects like those in the cases above alluded to. But although the facts were different the result of them was the same; i.e., the facts were such that the relation of trustee and *cestui que trust* was created. In the present case the defendant did not create the trust on which the plaintiff originally held the shares. The defendant had nothing to do with procuring their registration in the plaintiff's name as trustee for Benjamin and Kelly and their assigns. That feature of the case was strongly relied upon by the defendant's counsel as distinguishing it from those above-mentioned, and reliance was placed on what Lord Blackburn said in "Fraser v. Murdoch" (L.R., 6 A.C.) about makers of trusts (page 872) and trusts to carry on business with particular funds (page 875). But their Lordships could find nothing in Lord Blackburn's judgment which was inconsistent with the principles which in their Lordships' opinion governed this case. The fact that the defendant did not create the trust on which the plaintiff held the shares when they were first placed in his name afforded the de-

fendant no defence to this action. Although the defendant did not create the trust he accepted a transfer of the beneficial ownership in the shares first as mortgagee and afterwards as sole beneficial owner with full knowledge of the fact that they were registered in the plaintiff's name as trustee for the original purchasers and their assigns whoever they might be. By that acceptance the defendant became the plaintiff's *cestui que trust*; and the plaintiff could not prevent it or effectually dispute his trusteeship for the defendant. By that acceptance the defendant created the trust for himself. Having done so the defendant as the beneficial owner of the shares demanded from the plaintiff and obtained dividend declared in respect of them. The defendant also paid calls made upon them although he attempted to protect himself from any admission of liability by entering those payments in his books as made on behalf of the plaintiff. Lastly, when asked by the plaintiff to procure a transfer of the shares out of the plaintiff's name the defendant refused to do so, and thereby compelled the plaintiff to continue to hold them as his trustee. It was idle after that to rely on the fact that the defendant did not create the trust in the first instance; and idle to talk of renunciation or disclaimer of those shares by the defendant. He could not now get rid of the trust for himself which he created by becoming beneficial owner of the shares and which trust he had recognized since as subsisting. It was quite unnecessary to consider in this case the difficulties which would arise if those shares were held by the plaintiff on trust for tenants for life or for infants or upon special trusts limiting the right to indemnity. In those cases there was no beneficiary who could be justly expected or required personally to indemnify the trustee against the whole of the burdens incident to his legal ownership, and the trustee accepted the trust knowing that under such circumstances and in the absence of special contract he has right to indemnify could not extend beyond the trust estate or beyond the respective interests of his *cestuis que trustent*. In this case their Lordships had only to deal with a person *sui juris* beneficially entitled to shares which he could not disclaim. The obligation of such a person to indemnify his trustee against calls upon them appeared to their Lordships indisputable in a Court of equity, unless, of course, there was some contract or other circumstance which excluded such obligation. Here there was none. Whether the plaintiff in this case could sue Benjamin and Kelly on any promise by them to indemnify him need not be discussed. Such a right, if it existed, in no way affected the obligation of the defendant as the plaintiff's *cestui que trust*. But it was obvious that any payment to the plaintiff by Benjamin and Kelly, or by the defendant, in respect of the call would reduce the amount which the plaintiff could recover from the defendant, or from them, as the case might be. For those reasons their Lordships would advise her Majesty to allow the appeal and to reverse the judgments appealed from with costs, and the defendant would pay the costs of this appeal. Owing to the judgment appealed from being a judgment of non-suit only, their Lordships were unable to advise her Majesty to order judgment to be entered for the plaintiff with costs. The defendant was entitled to a new trial at the risk of costs. But how, in the face of his own books and conduct, he could reasonably hope for ultimate success their Lordships were at a loss to conceive. If, however, he insisted on his strict rights he was entitled to have the action remitted to Hongkong for retrial, and their Lordships would humbly so advise her Majesty.

A Jiji special telegram, dated Seoul the 6th, says:—"It is understood that the surveying of the route of the Seoul-Wiju railway now being conducted under the direction of a French engineer, will be concluded by the end of March next and that the work of construction on the line will at once be begun. It is yet uncertain whether the capital necessary to the undertaking will be raised by means of the flotation of a loan on foreign markets or of the introduction of foreign capital through method. It is probable, however, that the latter methods will be resorted to."

HONGKONG.

The U. S. gunboat *Isla de Luzon* arrived on the 14th inst. from Manila.

A hawker fell from a house-top at West Point on the 15th inst., and alighted on his head, sustaining injuries to which he succumbed in the Tung Wa Hospital, whither he was removed.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherlands Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—Market Charitable Fund, \$50.

Up to the present only 20 of the Seige Train bullocks have been sold by the Military authorities, the prices yielding on an average \$29 each animal. The ruling price for the same class of bullocks in India is Rs. 100.

In the *Gazette* appears the appointment of Mr. R. F. Johnston to be Acting Clerk of Councils, a position which Mr. Johnston was holding at the time of his appointment to the post of Private Secretary to H.E. the Governor.

Subject to audit, the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will recommend at the forthcoming meeting of the company a dividend of £1 10s. per share, a bonus of 10s per share, and to add \$1,000,000 to the Reserve Fund and carry forward about \$1,400,000.

Of the articles examined by Mr. T. J. Wild, Acting Government Analyst, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance, during the quarter just ended, one of the three samples of brandy proved not to be genuine, while the one sample of milk and the three of whisky were genuine.

A rumour has gained currency among the shipping circles in Hongkong that considerable disaffection exists among the ship's company of the United States cruiser *Albany*, now lying in the Harbour. One version of the story is that the absence of a thorough *esprit de corps* among the officers and men is attributable to severity in the punishment of petty misdemeanours on board as well as unnecessary rigour in dealing with breaches of naval discipline.

A report by Dr. J. C. Thomson is published in the *Gazette*, containing the results of his examinations of mosquitoes in the Colony during the last quarter of 1900. Dr. Thomson found *Anopheles* and *Culex* in the following proportions during the three months:—October, *Anopheles* 26.4, *Culex* 73.6 per cent.; November, *Anopheles* 6.3, *Culex* 93.7 per cent.; December, *Anopheles* 5.9, *Culex* 94.1 per cent. Dr. Thomson proposes to extend his enquiry over the whole of 1901, with a view to an approximately accurate classification of the mosquitoes prevailing in the Colony.

The following returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and specie in reserve in Hongkong during the month of December, 1900, are certified by the Managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China...	\$2,927,088	\$1,600,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited	7,033,450	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	450,000	150,000

Total \$10,380,538 \$6,750,000

The two cruisers ordered by the Siamese Government about a year ago from the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company are practically completed. The *Bali*, when she went through her final trial on the 8th inst. in the presence of representatives of the Siamese Government, attained 11.4 knots, which is 4 above the speed contracted for. The trial was all that could be desired, and the vessel was taken out of the hands of the Dock Company and left on Sunday for Bangkok, Captain Rowin in command. The *Sugril*, twin-ship to the *Bali*, is almost ready for her final trial. It is expected that she will leave Hongkong in about a month. The dimensions of the cruisers are 162 feet long, 23 feet beam, moulded depth 11 feet, displacement 390 tons. The engines are about 500 indicated horse power. Each vessel will be manned by a crew of between 40 and 50 men. About a couple of years ago a similar vessel was constructed by the Dock Company for Siam, and we believe that the company have received an enquiry for another.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Austrian cruiser *Zenta* arrived here on the 10th inst. from Kobe, and the U. S. despatch vessel *Zafiro* from Manila on the 11th inst.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—L. Gibbs, \$10.

Lieut.-Col. G. A. Hughes, M.B., D.S.O., R.A.M.C., Principal Medical Officer, has been appointed to the Sanitary Board in place of Major H. H. Brown, R.A.M.C., resigned.

The German cruiser *Luchs* arrived on the 14th inst. from Canton. The French cruiser *Chasseloup Laubat* left on the 12th inst. for Foochow.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week shows that 424 non-Chinese and 135 Chinese visited the former institution, 150 non-Chinese and 2,104 Chinese the latter.

Apart from the one case of plague, the only instances of communicable disease in the colony last week were one fatal case of enteric fever on H.M.S. *Barfleur* and a case of small-pox in the City of Victoria. The latter was imported.

His Excellency the Governor has offered a reward of \$500 for information that will lead to the conviction of the murder of Yeung Ku Wan in Gage Street on the 10th inst., and a free pardon for any person giving information other than the man who fired the shots.

A Chinese workman employed in the building operations on the Praya Reclamation fell on the 10th inst. from one of the houses in course of erection, a distance of forty feet. He was picked up and carried to the Tung Wah Hospital, where he has since died.

The Burns anniversary (25th inst.) will be celebrated by the St. Andrew's Society in Hongkong by a Scottish concert in St. George's Hall. As Mrs. Mudie and Mrs. Lowson, Capt. the Hon. H. W. Trefusis, Mr. Alec Marsh, and others are to appear, a good entertainment is promised, and the Band of H.M.S. *Barfleur* will play a selection of Scottish music.

It is intimated that the Board of Directors of Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd., have decided, subject to audit, to pay a dividend for the 12 months ending 31st December, 1900, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the paid up capital of \$1,000,000, and to place \$100,000 to Permanent Reserve Fund, carrying forward a balance of \$13,275.70 to new profit and loss account.

Fire broke out at 1.50 a.m. on the 13th inst. at 29, Jervois Street, in the Kwan On Chun silk piece-goods shop. The building was a four-storeyed one, and the outbreak is supposed to have originated on the ground floor, in the stairway of which a tin kerosene lamp usually burned. The flames spread with alarming rapidity, and the building was almost totally destroyed. The damage is at present unknown, but it probably will be fully covered by the insurance, which amounts, in all, to \$17,000—\$14,000 in L'Union Fire Insurance Company, and \$3,000 in the Western Assurance Company.

The Harbour Department has issued the following regulations to be observed to-day at the regatta of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club:—1. A red burgee will be hoisted at a staff on the judge's stand five minutes before the starting of a race, and will be kept flying until that race is finished. 2. During the time that this red burgee is flying, all boats, junks, etc., are to keep outside the western boundary of the course, in order not to interfere with the competing crews. 3. The western boundary of the course will be drawn from the judge's stand off the Kowloon Goodowns to the gunboats' mooring-buoys off the Royal Naval Establishment at Kowloon, and continued on to Taikoktsui Point. 4. Launches following the races must keep astern of the sternmost of the competing boats. This last regulation does not apply to the launch of the umpire or other official of the club.

The steamer *Nairung*, which is stated to be one of the best known boats of Lund's Blue Anchor Line, and which broke her tail shaft a few days ago while on a passage from Taku to Sydney, has been towed into the latter port by the steamer *Croham*. The accident happened when the vessel was about 140 miles north of Cape Moreton, and she had drifted about for two days before she was sighted by the *Croham*.

The Shanghai A.D.C. was playing *Our Flat* last week at the Lyceum Theatre before crowded houses.

The trial of John Holst for the dealleg murder of his wife Nora in a hotel at Manila, under circumstances already reported, was concluded on the 7th inst. He was declared innocent of the charge, and liberated from custody.

It is notified in the London *Gazette* that Major-General J. B. B. Dickson, C.B., who has been in command of a cavalry brigade in South Africa, is to resume command of the troops in the Straits Settlements, to complete five years in that appointment.

The following is the version of the *Barfleur* affair given in a telegram dated Paris, 4th January:—"It is reported that the crew of the British flagship *Barfleur*, disappointed of a share in the loot after the capture of Peking, has mutinied and thrown the ship's gun-mountings into the sea. An officer was injured in the course of this mutiny."

Business men in Portland, Oregon, make a strong bid for the Philippine trade. As soon as the war closed, they founded the "Philippine Trade Association," and sent an agent to the islands to investigate the conditions and make recommendations. Since then they are urging the Government to favour American products in the new customs regulations. This activity of the Portland merchants is another proof of the new life the expansion policy has brought to the Pacific Coast.

A new magazine has been issued in London by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett, commencing in November last. It is entitled the *Imperial and Colonial Magazine and Review*, and from the opening number, a copy of which has been sent us by Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., who are its publishers here, it should have a bright future. It is to be an organ devoted to the study of matters of Imperial and Colonial, as distinct from Party interest. From the Imperial standpoint, it is claimed in the Introduction to the first number, "there can be but one Party—the Party sincerely pledged to maintain, strengthen, and unaggressively to develop the vast political system which girdles the globe, and under the British flag proclaims the freedom, the equality, and the common rights of all its citizens. To that Party—to all, in fact, of English speech who are concerned in the stability of the British Empire—the Proprietors appeal for support and encouragement in their efforts to make this magazine a worthy exponent of the greatness of these aims." The editors of the new venture are "Celt" and Mr. E. F. Benson, already well known as a novelist.

With regard to Kung Chao, of whose promised return to Shanghai we publish a telegram from our correspondent elsewhere, the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 7th inst. says:—"The statement that Kung Chao, the man illegally arrested on the 22nd ult., 'left the Settlement entirely of his own accord,' is just such a subterfuge as the Chinese authorities delight in. Kung Chao was told that he was wanted at the Mixed Court, and said that as he had committed no crime he was perfectly willing to go there, and got into the carriage provided by his captors under the impression that they were taking him to the Mixed Court, instead of which he was taken to Colonel Yen's camp, where he still lies, and where we understand he is being threatened with torture if he does not sign a statement drawn up by Colonel Yen to the effect that he went willingly to the camp. It is possible that he has under duress already signed such a statement, but he has let his friends know plainly that he is acting under compulsion. We learn that the Municipal Council has given to the Consular Body the evidence that Kung Chao was decoyed into the carriage and as much kidnapped as if actual violence had been used. According to the *Universal Gazette*, H.E. Liu Kung-yi has ordered the transfer of the prisoner Kung Chao to the Mixed Court. The *N.-C. Daily News* believes, however, that Liu Kung-yi's promise to Mr. Warren was not unqualified; and obviously what should be insisted on is that Kung Chao be put again in the position he occupied before he was kidnapped by General Yen's runners."

Steps have been taken to establish a paper manufactory in West Java from raw materials produced in the island, such as lalang, bamboo, &c. Water power will be the motive force.

The death last month of Mr. Adolph Danw, an old resident of Kobe, is announced. Deceased, who was a native of Hamburg, arrived in Japan in 1881 under contract as rice-miller to the Japanese Rice Milling Co. of Hyogo, and for sixteen years has held that position.

The China Mutual steamer *Tsinan*, which arrived in Kobe during the Christmas holidays, called at Weihaiwei on her way up from Australia, discharging eleven hundred tons of firewood at that port—indirect evidence of the bareness of the country in the neighbourhood.

In consequence of the continued drought in Japan, Nagasaki is threatened with a water famine. The local reservoir is almost depleted of water and the stock at present is hardly sufficient for the requirements of the town. It is feared that the water supply will have to be temporarily dispensed with.

The *Shanghai Mercury* regrets to have to record the death of Mr. J. S. Knowles, for many years secretary of S. C. Farnham & Co., Ltd., which took place at his residence on the 8th inst. He was well-known and respected by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, having been in China for nearly forty years.

The *N.-C. Daily News* Peking correspondent, writing on the 23rd ult., says:—"Speaking the other day with one of the German officials on the (Peking railway) line, I learned that the Germans now direct the traffic from Tangku to Peking. The Russians have a few stations to Yangtsun, then the line is for some distance in the hands of the Germans, then of the Japanese, and finally under British control to Peking." The same correspondent under the heading of "How the different nationalities stand," says:—"The Russians have begun famine relief—presumably it is conscience-money that buys the corn. At all events it is rather premature. The French are making up their accounts, including the indemnities to be paid to Chinese Catholics. That is a rather tall order, but quite in keeping with the policy that believes in the Vatican decrees and the sovereignty of the Pope. The Japs are quietly doing a 'roaring trade' selling their loot, it is said. The Americans are trying their 'prentice hands' on the Eastern Problem and International Comity. The Germans, though the last to come, are now the best served—with prestige and equipage. They 'boss the show.' The British 'are not in it,' to use the German summary of our position."

On the 7th inst. Messrs Boyd & Co., Shanghai, launched from their building slips two vessels built to the order of the Russians. The first to take the water was a very handsome yacht, which is to be for the personal use of the Governor of Port Arthur. Though the vessel is still unnamed, yet the orthodox bottle of champagne was hurled at her bows as she glided down the slips by Miss Zina Dessino, daughter of Colonel Dessino, Russian Military Agent in China. The yacht is a steel screw steamer of 53 tons. Her dimensions are: length between perpendiculars 62 ft., breadth moulded 13 ft. 11 in., depth moulded 8 ft. 9 in. She has a saloon forward, which was completely fitted up, with the exception of the upholstery. The boilers and engines had been put in and she was launched with steam up. Miss Katia Dessino christened the second ship the *Zeia*, which was built to the order of the Chinese Eastern Railway Co. and is a vessel of 918 tons gross measurement and 800 indicated horse-power. She is a sister ship to the *Burneia* which was built for the same Company and launched about a month ago. She is 200 feet in length, 30 feet in breadth, 13 ft. in depth to main deck and 20 ft. in depth to the awning deck, with two pole masts, schooner rigged fore and aft, and derricks to work cargo. Her engines are of the inverted triple expansion type of the latest modern pattern. She has holds fore and aft and a cellular double bottom, with a large ballast tank forward. She is specially built for ice and is double-plated forward. Her boats are cut away for running up the ice and in case her own weight is sufficient she can make use of 153 tons water ballast in her ballast tank. She is specially adapted for the Kamschatka trade and will run between Vladivostock and Petropolk.

Major-General Lorne Campbell has issued a notice in Tientsin, prohibiting the presence of any Chinese after 9 p.m. in the streets of the British Concession, except in the case of ricksha coolies actually in carrying foreigners.

The formation of three additional Indian infantry regiments has been sanctioned and two more are contemplated. The new regiments will be employed for garrison duty at Mauritius, Singapore, Hongkong and Ceylon, the Imperial Exchequer bearing the cost.

An official despatch has been received by the Japanese Naval Department stating that the Japanese first-class battleship *Hatsuse* (15,240 tons), which is under construction in England and is almost completed, will leave for Japan towards the end of this month.

A number of changes in the British consulates at Japan are reported. Mr. Wawn, who is at present in the Consulate at Kobe, has been appointed to Nagasaki, where he takes the place of a First Assistant. Mr. Wawn will be succeeded in Kobe by Mr. E. H. Holmes, of the Yokohama Consulate. Mr. Gordon will be Acting Assistant at Tamsui.

As a sign of the strength of the Russian reinforcements now coming East it is to be noted that the Volunteer Fleet steamer *Vladimir* arrived at Singapore on the 6th inst. from Odessa en route for Vladivostok with 938 soldiers on board. The *Kherson*, of the same fleet, arrived on the previous afternoon from Nagasaki for Odessa. She had 1,480 soldiers on board.

Commander John D. Daintree, of the *Amphitrite*, in Chatham Reserve, relieves Commander Ernest Gaint at the Naval Depot, Liu-Kun-Tao, and assumes the newly-created post of Queen's Harbour Master at Wei-hai-wei. This, says a service contemporary, is another "stone-frigate" appointment for the new navigating officers, and, considering the climate, more desirable than that at Hongkong.

The new Burma rice crop, according to the estimate, will be the largest on record. As it is hoped there will be no famine in India, prices will probably be lower than those of 1900. In Siam the prospects of the present crop are said to be excellent, and Bangkok and Saigon will doubtless supply a good deal of the demand for China and the Straits. Japan now buys Burma rice pretty regularly, finding it more profitable to export her own grain.

Telegraphing to the *Times* on the 6th ult., Dr. Morrison makes the following remarks on Kang Yu-wei:—To-day several of the foreign Ministers received a printed appeal, dated Singapore, November 14, from Kang Yu-wei, urging the restoration of the Emperor and the arrest of the reactionary officials, and warning them to keep careful watch over the so-called friendly Viceroy of Southern China. Kang Yu-wei, since the publication early this year of his propaganda disclosing the greatest ignorance, combined with views almost as antagonistic to foreigners as those of the reactionaries he condemns, has lost all influence here.

Lieut. Brannersreuther, the Captain of the Port at Manila, in his annual report to the Military Governor, gives some interesting figures showing the advance of the port. The tonnage of the entrances, during the fiscal year of 1900, was 800,902.50, as against 396,863.17 in the preceding year, or an increase of 101 per cent.; the coastwise entrances in 1899 were 191,187.88 and in 1900 were 375,045.36, an increase of 96 per cent.; foreign clearances in 1899 were 366,190.12, and in 1900 were 782,354.10, an increase of 113 per cent.; coastwise clearances in 1899 were only 196,092.57, while in 1900 they amounted to 345,337.19, or an increase of 76 per cent.

The *P. and T. Times* of the 22nd ult. has the following about Miss Bourignon of the Victoria Jubilee Hospital, Tientsin, who has since received the Royal Red Cross, as our readers are aware:—Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the Matron for the plucky way in which she has conducted her work single-handed, often in the face of very trying difficulties, and all too frequently without that encouragement and sympathy from without which is of such material assistance in the fulfilment of arduous responsibilities. And we must not forget, too, that in addition to the strain of work, Nurse Bourignon had the misfortune to lose all her personal and most valued effects, many of them

Latest mail advices from New York state that Lieut. Hobson, of Merrimac fame, is still very ill in a private hospital there.

The first vessel to arrive in Rangoon from the new German possession, Kiaochow, reached the Burmese port last month. She was the steamer *Athesia*, and on reaching Rangoon she loaded rice and rice meal for London to the extent of about 10,000 tons.

From latest telegrams we find that among those who died of wounds at Vryheid was Lieut. Woodgate, of the 2nd Lancasters. Lieut. Woodgate, who will be remembered here, as well as at Singapore, was a cousin of Gen. Woodgate, mortally wounded on Spion Kop. Lieut. Lippert, of the same regiment, was killed.

The Time Observatory at the end of the spit at the mouth of the Singapore River has been connected by a line to the Telegraph Office. In connection with the establishment of a standard time throughout the Malay Peninsula from the 1st inst., signals will thus be able to be sent direct to Malacca, Penang, &c., daily.

Quarantine regulations tell very hardly on commerce. The U.S.S. *Kilpatrick*, which went through Singapore the other day, had made all arrangements to take 700 tons of coal there, but when some trouble arose out of a plague patient on board the *Wing Hon*, she declined to make for the wharf, and steamed at once outwards for Manila.

The telegraph ship *Sherard Osborne*, Capt. Dunmall, arrived at Singapore on the 3rd inst. from China and Cape St. James, where she has been on cable work. An unfortunate accident took place on the vessel on the night of the 28th ult., the head man in charge of the picking up gear getting by some means caught in the gear and being literally cut to pieces.

Captain William Leckie Hamilton Browne, of Her Majesty's ship *Evern*, died somewhat suddenly at Harwich on 12th ult. He held the silver medal of the Royal Humane Society, awarded him in 1871, while a Sub-Lieutenant, for jumping overboard and holding up, until assistance came, Lieutenant L. Edge, R.M.L.I., who had fallen into the Harbour at Hongkong.

Except four men whose health obliged them to go into hospital, the Royal Marines who returned to Chatham from China last month were despatched to their homes on Saturday for a few weeks' furlough. One of the number, Private Tickner, took part in the defence of the British Legation in Peking, and was wounded in both legs and in the right arm by rifle bullets. Before leaving Peking he and the other Marines were each handed a cheque for £5 11s. 8d. by Sir Claude Macdonald, on behalf of the subscribers, members of the Legation. Tickner is still suffering from the effects of that rough time. Privates Good and Snook, who were with Admiral Seymour's force which attempted to relieve the Legations, were both wounded. Private Layton, one of the four in hospital at Chatham, was shot at the side of the head, just below the eye, and the bullet, coming out at the lower part of the head, re-entered his body at the shoulder. The others in hospital are Privates Tristram, Inch, and Warren, who have broken down as the result of the strain and unhealthy conditions in Peking.

The Government yacht *Sea Belle* left Singapore on the 7th inst., taking as passengers the Hon. A. Murray, Colonial Engineer, and Captain Craufurd, R.N., the Master Attendant of the port. They were en route to Pulau Aor to survey a possible site for the proposed new lighthouse on that island. The proposed Pulau Aor light was originally suggested last February by Captain Symons, of the P. & O. s.s. *Parramatta*, who represented that vessels on the direct run from Hongkong to Singapore often travel 1,300 miles without seeing a light and that therefore it would be advisable that they should have some light to enable them to ascertain their position before pulling up at the Horsburgh light at the entrance to the Straits. With commendable expedition the matter was pushed through at Singapore and \$20,000 for preliminary expenses were voted in this year's Budget, and, if everything is satisfactory, the lamp, without the necessary tower, can be purchased next year for £4,000. Ship-masters, however, are by no means agreed that Pulau Aor is the best site, but the difficulty is that the most natural one, Pulau Mankie, is in the hands of the Dutch.

The following appointment has been made at the Admiralty:—Surgeon Walter H. S. Stalkart, M.D., to the *Alacrity*, to date December 7. The School of Chinese, started under the auspices of the China Association, has been removed to more commodious premises in Vernon Place, London. Already there are some ten students.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1900-1 lbs.	1899-00 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	—	—
Amoy	573,270	457,760
Foochow	11,244,976	16,174,605
Canton	—	—
	11,818,246	16,632,365

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1 lbs.	1899-00 lbs.
Shanghai	—	—
Amoy	16,063,901	12,345,300
Foochow	11,308,831	9,351,272
	27,372,732	21,696,572

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1899-1900 lbs.	1898-99 lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	35,474,308	25,478,107

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1 lbs.	1899-00 lbs.
Yokohama	23,854,555	25,365,874
Kobe	12,185,183	18,875,452
	36,039,738	39,241,326

SILK.

CANTON, 5th January.—Tsatlees and Re-reels.—No settlements are reported. Filatures—Declined another \$10 to \$20 per picul, and a fair business has been done. From prices paid quotations are: \$755 for Min King Lun 11/13, \$750 to \$745 for Kwong Shun Cheong and Kwong Sun Hang 11/13, \$735 for Kwong Sun On 1/13, and \$730 for Kwong King Cheong, Wing Wo Lun and Yee Wo Loong 9/11, \$725 for Kwong Wo Ching and Kwong Yuen On 9/11, and Ying Cheong and Kwong Sun On 11/13, \$720 for Kwong Wo Shang 9/11 and Kwong Wo 11/13, \$710 for Man Po Sing 10/12, and Kwang Sun On 13/15, \$695 for Min Tai Cheong 10/12, and \$685 for How King Cheong 13/15, \$645 to \$635 for Hing Lun, Tung Hing and Soey Wo Cheong 11/13, and \$605 to \$585 for Best No. 3 13/15 and 14/18. Short-reels—Have been in little enquiry for New York. From prices paid quotations are: \$730 for Kwong Wo Tai and Kwong Wo Hing 14/16, \$700 for Yu Wo Cheong 14/16. Waste.—About 1,200 piculs of Extra-Extra Waste have been settled at \$78 to \$80 per picul. Appended are quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 4 months' sight, 2/1¹/₂, and Fcs. 2.67¹/₂ per Dollar.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1900-1901 bales.	1899-00 bales.
Shanghai	32,348	57,300
Yokohama	11,418	15,779
	43,766	73,079

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1900-1901 bales.	1899-00 bales.
Shanghai	4,750	11,632
Yokohama	12,061	21,921
	16,820	33,553

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 18th January.—Still there have been no fresh supplies. No sales.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 18th January.—Prices are advancing a little, the tone of the market having improved. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.20 to \$8.25	pc.
do. " 2, White.....	7.10 to 7.15	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.25 to 5.30	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.10 to 5.15	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.10 to 8.15	"
do. " 1, White.....	7.05 to 7.10	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.15 to 5.20	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.05 to 5.10	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.15 to 12.20	"
Shekloong "	10.65 to 10.70	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per Imperial German Mail steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, sailed on the 3rd January. For Genoa:—20 bales waste silk, 70 cases raw silk, 10 cases essential oil, 6 pkgs. tea. For Smyrna:—50 cases cassia buds. For Trieste:—100 cases staraniseed, 10 cases essential oil. For Antwerp:—200 cases cassia, 105 bales feathers, 57 cases gallnuts, 33 bales rattanore, 29 boxes Chinaware. For Antwerp/Hamburg:—20 boxes bristles. For Antwerp/Hbg/London:—100 boxes cassia, 100 bales broken cassia. For Amsterdam:—7 cases Chinaware. For Rotterdam:—21 bales canes. For Bremen:—415 rolls matting, 13 cases curios and private effects. For Hamburg:—223 bales canes, 140 bales feathers, 75 cases staraniseed, 10 boxes bristles, 5 cases copperware, 5 cases human hair, 1 case Chinaware. For Hamburg/London:—15 boxes bristles.

Per steamer *Hudson*, sailed on the 4th Jan. For New York:—357 bales hemp, 40 bales bamboo split, 18 pkgs. canes, 1,540 merchandise.

Per P. & O. steamer *Bengal*, sailed on the 5th January. For London:—150 bales waste silk opt. Manchester, 20 bales raw silk, 5 cases silks, 100 rolls mats, 5 cases bristles, 2 cases curios, 12 cases clothing and curios, 1 case silver plate and jewelry. For Lyons:—120 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—100 bales raw silk, 50 bales waste silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 18th Jan.—Malwa.—An insignificant business took place at the following quotations, which are the same as recorded in our last. New at \$810, Old at \$820/\$830.

Bengal.—Ruled quiet and prices receded to \$860 for Patna and \$875 for Benares, at which rates a good quantity was sold. Subsequently Patna recovered to \$865, market closing steady.

Persian.—We have no change to report.

STOCK.

Patna.....	1,678
Benares.....	238
Malwa	1,067½
Persian	2,743½

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 18th January.—A good business at steady rates. Stock about 1,500 bales.

Bombay,	22.00 to 22.50	picul
Bengal (New), Rangoon, } ..	22.50 to 24.00	"
and Dacca,	22.50 to 24.00	"
Shanghai and Japanese, ...	24.00 to 25.50	"
Tungchow and Ningpo,	24.0 to 25.50	"
Sale: 2,000 bales.		

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 18th January.—The demand still continues, but is not general, a few favourite chops only being dealt in, prices of which show here and there a further improvement of 50 cents to a Dollar per bale and are firm at quotations. No. 20s. continue strong with light stocks, superior

No. 16s. are in good enquiry owing to scarcity of Japanese spinnings, whilst in No. 10s. and 12s. rather more enquiry has been experienced at irregular rates, but mostly firmer. At the close business appears to be greatly checked, as holders having somewhat eased their stocks are less eager to sell, whilst dealers having picked out the most desirable parcels are indifferent.

Local Manufacture.—About 500 bales No. 10s. and 12s. of the Hongkong S. W. and Dyeing Mills are reported to have changed hands at \$89 for No. 10s. and \$91 for No. 12s., prices showing an improvement of \$1 and market closing strong.

Japanese Spinings:—Supplies still keep out and the firmness in the home markets prevent new business either in spot goods or forward delivery. Prices are steady and we repeat late quotations—say \$103 to \$105 for No. 16s. and \$105 to \$108 for No. 20s.

Raw Cotton:—Arrivals of Indian staple during the interval amount to 3,000 bales, the bulk of which is in part fulfilment of contracts entered into early in the season by our local Mill both in Bombay and Calcutta. Of the remaining bales put up for sale, some \$22½ to \$23½, leaving an unsold stock of 1,200 bales. In Chinese Cotton, sales of 400 bales Ningpo and Shanghai at \$24 to \$25 are reported. Stock 800 bales. Quotations are:—\$19 to \$23½ Bengal and \$22 to \$25 China.

Exchange on India has continued to decline and closes weak to-day at Rs. 153½ for T/T and Rs. 154 for Post. On Shanghai 72½ and on Yokohama 2 per cent discount.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ending 14th instant, viz:—

Indian:—Total sales 9160 bales, comprising No. 20s. 2,752 bales, No. 16s. 3,590 bales, No. 12s. 400 bales, No. 10s. 2,418 bales, prices showing an advance of half to one Tael and market closing strong. Estimated unsold stock about 17,000 bales.

Japanese:—Business much restricted by the paucity of supplies; sales amounting to 3,000 bales (mostly forward) on the basis Tls. 78 to 78½ for No. 16s. and Tls. 82 to 83 for No. 20s., prices showing a general advance of 2 to 3 Taels, and market closing very firm.

Local:—The market has taken a decided upward movement and sales aggregating 3000 bales are reported on the basis of Tls. 68 to 70 for No. 10s., Tls. 70 to 76 for No. 12s., Tls. 75 to 78 for 14s., and Tls. 73 to 80 for No. 16s., prices showing an advance of 2 to 4 Taels.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 18th January.—The downward tendency continues, market being dull. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.65 to 2.70
Round, Good quality	2.85 to 2.90
Long	3.05 to 3.10
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.75 to 2.80
Garden, " No. 1	3.18 to 3.23
White.....	3.70 to 3.75
Fine Cargo	4.10 to 4.15

COALS.

HONGKONG, 18th January.—Small sales of Japanese at quotations:—

Cardiff.....	\$30.00	sellers ex ship
Australian \$14.00 to \$14.50 ex godown, nominal		
Yubari Lump.....	\$11.00	ex godown, nominal
Milki Lump	\$10.	
Moji Lump	\$7.00 to \$9.50	ex ship, steady
Hongay double screened	10.50	ex godown
Hongay Lump.....	8.50	ex ship
Hongay Dust	5.50	"
Briquettes.....	14.50	ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 18th January.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn: 1,300 bales No. 10 at \$83 to \$90, 600 bales No. 12 at \$87 to \$95, 200 bales No. 16 at \$95 to \$99-50, 1,300 bales No. 20 at \$98 to \$102. White Shirtings: 500 pieces No. 300 at \$4-12½, 250 pieces No. 300 at \$4-12½, 1,000 pieces D 70 at \$4-25, 1,000 pieces S Q at \$5-10, 1,000 pieces Gold Goose at \$5-05, 1,000 pieces Flower at \$5-55, 600 pieces Gold Tiger at \$7-55. Grey Shirtings: 1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. Geese Peach at \$3-00, 1,200 pieces 10 lbs. Kan Kun at \$4-40, 750 pieces 3 Children at \$4-52½. Scarlet Camlets: 200 pieces of Birds at \$12-00

100 pieces 9 Birds at \$12-00. Drills: 150 pieces 15 lbs. Cat Head at \$5-75, 160 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$6-55. Mexicans: 600 pieces 36 Crown at \$2-90.

COTTON YARN—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$78.00 to \$111.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	138.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON-PIECE GOODS—

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.15 to 2.25
7 lbs.	2.40 to 2.55
8.4 lbs.	2.90 to 3.60
9 to 10 lbs.	3.70 to 4.50
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.60 to 2.80
58 to 60 "	3.25 to 4.05
64 to 66 "	4.80 to 5.55
Fine.....	5.20 to 7.90
Book-folds.	4.40 to 6.30
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.78 to 1.60
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.75 to 1.90
7lbs. (32 ") ..	2.00 to 2.25
6lbs. (32 ") ..	1.95 to 2.20
7lbs. (32 ") ..	2.85 to 3.70
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..	2.90 to 3.80
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.25 to 7.10

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.55 to 5.00
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Brocades—Dyed	— to —
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	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08½ to 0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22½ to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.20 to 0.22½

	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.80 to 2.50

WOOLENS—

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.80 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 2.50

	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet.....	6.40 to 10.00
Assorted.....	6.50 to 10.10

Camlets—Assorted.....	12.50 to 32.00
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Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } ..	8.00 to 20.00
Assorted	

Orleans—Plain	8.50 to 10.00
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	per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00 to 18.00

METALS—

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.25 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) ..	4.25 to —
Swedish Bar	7.00 to —
Small Round Rod	4.50 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	5.00 to —
Wire 15/25	7.50 to —
Old Wire Rope.....	2.50 to —
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop.....	10.50 to —
Australian	10.50 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz. 14/20 oz.	40.50 to —
Vivian's. 14/20 oz.	40.50 to —
Elliot's. 14/20 oz.	40.25 to —
New Chop. 14/20 oz.	39.50 to —
Composition Nails	65.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	41.00 to —
Tin	62.50 to —

	per box.
Tin-Plates	6.20 to —

	per cwt. case
Steel ½ to ¾	5.75 to —

SUNDRIES—

	per picul
Quicksilver	151.00 to —
	per box
Window Glass.....	5.75 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil	2.40 to —

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—*Chusan* (str.), *Rhipens* (str.), *Wakasa Maru* (str.), *Prometheus* (str.), *Alcinous* (str.), *Java* (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Achilles* (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—*Java* (str.), *Siam* (str.), *Wakasa Maru* (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—*Pruessen* (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Sambie* (str.), *Sibiria* (str.), *Friberg* (str.), *Sassonia* (str.), *Siam* (str.), *Silesia* (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B. C.—*Goodwin* (str.), *Idzumi Maru* (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—*Empress of India* (str.).
 FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—*Coptic* (str.), *America Maru* (str.), *City of R. de Janeiro* (str.).
 FOR NEW YORK.—*Polaris* (str.), *Jernan* (str.).
 FOR AUSTRALIA.—*Yawata Maru* (str.), *Guthrie* (str.), *Tsinan* (str.).
 FOR PORTLAND, O.—*Adato* (str.).
 FOR SAN DIEGO.—*Kvarven* (str.).

VERNON & SMYTH'S SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 18th January.—The market has been fairly active during the week, but rates in some cases have shown an inclination to weakness.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai in the early part of the week improved to 359 per cent. premium after small sales at 357 and 358 and at equivalent rates forward; later, however, with a fall in the cash rate to 357, shares were placed forward at less than equivalent rates. Market closes quiet at 355 per cent. premium, London rate £62. Nationals unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have been placed at \$53, \$54 and \$55. Yangtszes and Unions are enquired for in a small way at quotations; after sales at \$115 and \$245 respectively.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have improved to \$315 after sales at \$310. Chinas have found buyers at \$86, but close with sellers at \$85.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled steady with small sales at \$33½ and \$34, closing at the latter rate. Indos continue quiet at \$101 with only small sales. Douglasses remain on offer at \$47, but without business. China Manilas have been placed at \$73½ and \$73. China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have sales and sellers at \$115. Luzons are enquired for at \$40.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled weaker with sales at \$4½, \$4, and \$3½, closing quiet at \$3½. Charbonnages have fallen to \$325 without business. Jelebus have changed hands at quotation. Raubs remain unchanged with a small business.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been dealt in small lots at 587 per cent. prem for 31st inst. and at \$600 for March and \$607 for April. Market closes steady at \$857½. Kowloon Wharves have declined to \$91 with small sales. Wanchais are enquired for at quotations; also New Amoy Docks.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands changed hands to some extent in early part of the fortnight at \$264 and \$205 for settlements, and at \$211 to \$212 for March. At time of writing, however, the market is weaker with sales and sellers at 200 cash and at 205. For March Hotels could be placed to a small extent at \$123, but no sales are reported. West Points have changed hands at \$51. Humphreys at \$12½, \$13 and 14 for cash. The directors of the latter Company recommend a dividend of \$1 per share, placing \$100,000 to reserve and carrying forward \$13,275.70. Market closes at \$13½.

COTTON MILLS.—No business to report except small sales of Hongkongs at \$15.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been placed in fair lots at \$19½, closing firmer at \$20. Watsons have found buyers at \$15.50 and \$15.90 for cash. Electrics have improved to \$12½ and are enquired for. Fenwicks have changed hands at \$59. United Asbestos at \$7½. China Providents at \$10 cum div. and \$9½ ex div. Watkins at \$12½. Hensianas at \$105 and La Favoritas at \$700.

MEMOS.—Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Hongkong Land Co. and West Point Co. on 24th instant. Transfer books closed from 15th. Dividend and call of 1s. per share on Raubs payable on 28th instant. Ordinary Yearly Meeting Humphreys Estate & Co. Co. on the 28th instant. Transfer Books close 22nd instant. Ordinary Yearly Meeting Hongkong Kowloon and Macao Steamboat Co. on 5th February. Transfer Books close 23rd instant. Universal Trading Company, dividend payable on 21st instant. Transfer books closed from 19th to 21st instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	(\$368.75, sellers 355 p.ct. prem. = London, £62.
China & Japan, ordy.	24	£1.
Do. deferred	21	25 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares		\$27, buyers
B. Shares	28	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares	28	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	21	\$12.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M...	\$10	\$9½, ex div., & b'ys
China Sugar	\$100	\$115, sales
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 55.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 65.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 325, buyers
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Hongkong	\$109	\$15, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$7.
Fenwick & Co., Geo...	\$25	\$59, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$20.
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$118, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$5	\$12½, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$196, buyers
Hk. Steam Water-boat Co., Ltd.	15	\$5.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$123, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$176, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G...	\$50	\$91.
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	587½ p.ct. prem. = \$859.38, buyers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$145, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$85, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$56.
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$315.
North-China	\$25	Tls. 177½.
Straits	\$20	\$1.
Union	\$50	\$245, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$115, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$200, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$13½.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$28, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$51, sales & sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$40.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$325, sellers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$3	5 cents
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cents
Jelebu	\$5	\$6.30, sales
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	7 cents, sellers
Olivers Mines, A...	\$5	\$2.
Do. B...	\$5	\$14, sellers
Punjom	\$8	\$3½, sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.20.
Raubs	16s. 10d.	\$47, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$21½, buyers
Oriente Hotel Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$82½, sales
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$73, sellers
China Mutual Pref.	\$10	\$31, sellers
China Ordinary	\$10	\$12, buyers
Do.	\$5	\$7, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47, sellers
H. Canton and M...	\$15	\$34, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$101, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$1	\$3. 4s., sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$20, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co...	\$5	\$6, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$7½, sales & buyers
Do.	\$10	\$20.
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	\$62½, ex div., buys
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$12½, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15.60, buyers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$5½, buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra, Limited.	\$500	\$1,500, buyers
La Commercial, Ltd.	\$500	\$1,030.
Hensiana, Limited...	\$100	\$105, sales & sellers
La Favorita, Ltd.	\$500	\$700, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 18th January.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1½

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/1½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.59
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.65
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.11
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	50½
Credits, 60 days' sight	51½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	153½
Bank, on demand	154
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	153½
Bank, on demand	154
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	1½ p.c. dis.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	1 p.c. dis.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	¾ p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	123½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.63
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	50
BAR SILVER per oz.	29½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 18th January.—There has been a fair amount of business transacted during the period under review. From Saigon to Hongkong, a few medium sized carriers have been chartered at 10/12 cents per picul and more tonnage is wanted for February loading; to Philippines, 35/37 cents per picul; to Java, 32 cents per picul. Bangkok to this, no enquiry. Java to Hongkong, 35 cents per picul has been paid. Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25; to Singapore, \$2.75 per ton nominal.

The following are the settlements:—

On Sang—British steamer, 1,787 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.
 Amara—British steamer, 1,566 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.
 Germania—German steamer, 1,714 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.75 per ton.
 Bentarig—British steamer, 1,453 tons, Hongay to Swatow, \$2.25 per ton.
 Tetartos—German steamer, 1,812 tons, Amoy to Singapore (passengers), \$6.25 each.
 Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.
 Decima—German steamer, 794 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.
 Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.
 Marie Jebsen—German steamer, 1,771 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya, 32 cents per picul.
 Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 30 cents per picul.
 Victoria—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 36 cents per picul.
 Independent—German steamer, 1,040 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 36 cents per picul.
 Babelsberg—German steamer, 1,379 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 37 cents per picul.
 Nanchang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 37 cents per picul.
 Telemachus—German steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 37 cents, two ports 40 cents per picul.
 Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 37 cents per picul.
 Chwanshan—British steamer, 1,282 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.
 Victoria—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.
 Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Saigon to Iloilo and thence to Hongkong, 60 cents per picul.
 Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, two ports to north coast Java to Hongkong, 35 cents per picul.
 Peiyang—German steamer, 1,036 tons, monthly, 2/1 months, \$7,000 per month (re-charter).
 Helios—Norwegian steamer, 832 tons, monthly, about 9 months, \$8,100 per month (re-charter).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

January—

ARRIVALS.

- 11, Germania, German str., from Moji.
- 12, Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
- 12, Shansi, British str., from Wuhu.
- 12, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
- 12, Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.
- 12, Akashi Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
- 12, Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.
- 12, Hsieh Ho, British str., from Shanghai.
- 12, Tiger, Norwegian str., from Moji.
- 12, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
- 12, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 12, West York, British bark, from Rajang.
- 13, Kvarven, Norw. str., from Portland.
- 13, Independent, German str., from Samarang.
- 13, Loksang, British str., from Bangkok.
- 13, Norderney, German str., from Shanghai.
- 13, Shanghai, British str., from London.
- 13, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
- 13, Foochow, British str., from Chinkiang.
- 14, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 14, Marie Jebson, German str., from Saigon.
- 14, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
- 14, Benclutha, British str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
- 14, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 14, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Tsinan, British str., from Moji.
- 14, Luchs, German gunboat, from Canton.
- 14, Isla de Luzon, Amr.-g.-bt., from Manila.
- 14, Banca, British str., from London.
- 15, Sabine Rickmers, British str., from Tamsui.
- 15, S. v. Langkut, Dutch str., from Langkut.
- 15, Taisang, British str., from Shinghai.
- 15, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
- 15, Benlarig, British str., from Moji.
- 15, Ksuga Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
- 15, Kronborg, Danish str., from Moji.
- 15, Tetartos, German str., from Java.
- 16, Achilles, British str., from Yokonama.
- 16, City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
- 16, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 16, Adato, British str., from Portland.
- 16, Kawachi Maru, Jap. str., from London.
- 16, Sambia, German str., from Kobe.
- 16, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
- 16, Daphne, German str., from Swatow.
- 16, Carthage, British str., from Shanghai.
- 16, Benlmond, British str., from Singapore.
- 16, C. H. Kian, British str., from Singapore.
- 17, Laos, French str., from Marseilles.
- 17, Benalder, British str., from Moji.
- 17, Kyoto Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 17, Manche, French str., from Yokohama.
- 17, Perla, British str., from Manila.
- 17, Coromandel, British str., from Bombay.
- 17, Daybreak, British str., from Chefoo.
- 17, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
- 17, P. C. C. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.
- 17, Taishun, Amr. str., from Chefoo.
- 17, Wuhu, British str., from Chinkiang.
- 18, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.
- 18, Changsha, British str., from Australia.
- 18, Anping, British str., from Shanghai.
- 18, Chunsang, British str., from Nagasaki.
- 18, Progress, German str., from Tourn.
- 18, Cheangchew, British str., from Straits.
- 18, Taksang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 18, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
- 18, Glory, British battleship, from Singapore.

January—

DEPARTURES.

- 11, Hermes, Norw. str., for Chefoo.
- 12, Hamburg, German str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
- 12, Silesia, German str., for Yokohama.
- 12, Tartar, British str., for Vancouver.
- 12, Fulwood, British ship, for Port Oregon.
- 12, Sullberg, German str., for Haiphong.
- 12, Shansi, British str., for Canton.
- 12, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 12, Onsang, British str., for Kobe.
- 12, Etruria, British str., for Takao.
- 12, Fushun, British str., for Canton.
- 12, Kung Ping, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Kaifong, British str., for Manila.
- 12, Japan, British str., for London.
- 12, Devonshire, British str., for New York.
- 12, Normannia, Danish str., for Bangkok.
- 12, Babelsberg, Ger. str., for Chefoo.
- 12, Benvenne, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 12, Chasseloup Laubat, French cruiser, for Foochow.

- 13, Hols'cin, German str., for Saigon.
- 13, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
- 13, Shantung, German str., for Chefoo.
- 13, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
- 13, Phra C. Klao, British str., for Swatow.
- 13, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
- 13, Hsieh Ho, British str., for Canton.
- 13, Benj. Sewall, Amr. ship, for Singapore.
- 14, Hong Wan I, British str., for Amoy.
- 14, Diamante, British str., for Manila.
- 14, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
- 14, Hating, French str., for Hoihow.
- 14, Norderney, German str., for Hamburg.
- 14, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
- 15, Benclutha, British str., for Canton.
- 15, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
- 15, Kweilin, British str., for Shanghai.
- 15, Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
- 15, Shanghai, British str., for Shanghai.
- 15, Buteshire, Brit. 4-m. bk., for Port Oregon.
- 15, Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
- 15, Skarpsno, Norwegian str., for Moji.
- 16, Empress of China, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
- 16, Akashi Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
- 16, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
- 16, Astoria, British bark, for Portland, Or.
- 16, Hsinchi, British str., for Shanghai.
- 16, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
- 16, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
- 16, Mansang, British str., for Sandakan.
- 17, R. Morrow, Amr. ship, for New York.
- 17, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
- 17, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.
- 17, Germania, German str., for Hongay.
- 17, Else, German str., for Shanghai.
- 17, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
- 17, Chiyuen, British str., for Shanghai.
- 17, Ningpo, British str., for Hongay.
- 17, Manche, French str., for Europe.
- 17, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
- 18, Vipere, French gunboat, for Canton.
- 18, Banca, British str., for Shanghai.
- 18, Laos, French str., for Shanghai.
- 18, Achilles, British str., for London.
- 18, Goodwin, British str., for Tacoma.
- 18, Sambia, German str., for Hamburg.
- 18, Kasuga Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
- 18, Kawachi Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Inman, McFarlane and Jacott.
- Per *Lyeemoon*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Anderson and Mackenzie.
- Per *Formosa*, from Tamsui, &c., Dr. W. N. Wright, Lieut. Walwyn, Mr. G. K. Brutton, Lieut. Johnson, Mr. Mrs. and Master Wildman and Capt. Bunji.
- Per *Taisang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. C. F. Smith, Mrs. L. Knox, Mr. E. Schmidt, Lieut. Lating and Mr. Kelby Wilson.
- Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Melbourne, &c., for Hongkong, Messrs. T. E. Lescher and R. W. Giblin, Mrs. Glover, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Castle, Major C. T. Boyd, Mr. W. F. Goad, Mrs. Martin, Messrs. A. F. de Goicouria, Geo. H. Shute and E. C. Howell; for Yokohama, Messrs. T. Hojo, K. Sakuma, R. McCance and T. Hayashi.
- Per *Daijin Maru*, from Tamsui, &c., Mr. A. E. Holling.
- Per *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco, &c., Messrs. Geo. Irving and E. C. Houston, Messrs. J. Moore, J. S. Loengnecker, E. J. Lieband, W. H. Ray, F. H. Chesney, Admiral Beardslee, Mrs. Beardslee, Mrs. F. Blue, Mr. R. J. Dunlop, Mrs. Dunlop and daughter and Mr. Wm. A. Wilson.
- Per *Kawachi Maru*, from London, for Hongkong, Mrs. J. A. Keogh, Master M. V. Keogh, Mr. F. M. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Kuriyama; for Shanghai, Messrs. R. Reed and Heath; for Kobe, Messrs. J. Nitobe, K. Kawadji, Mrs. F. Koiso and Mr. Ida; for Yokohama, General N. Arisaka, Capt. M. Hayashi, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Edward, Messrs. G. Schwabe, S. Takakura, D. Yoshida and Shibuya.
- Per *Taishun*, from Chefoo, Capt. Baker and Capt. Oldham.
- Per *Perla*, from Manila, Messrs. W. J. McKenzie, W. D. Klose, C. Gopeze, E. R. Gonzales, M. Freciano and J. L. Basa and son.
- Per *Laos*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Miss A. Smith; from Singapore, Messrs. J. K. Carpenter, Maclaren, M. L. de Nevez and two children, Celestino Rodriguez, Rodriguez Lopez,

A. Weill and Y. Kent; from Saigon, Mr. R. S. Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. Grefte and child, Mr. P. Vicoenot, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wattle and Mr. Mourre.

Per *Manche*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Dr. E. S. Tuck and Mr. Guillaumat; from Kobe, Mrs. Filbername; from Nagasaki, Mr. Loro; from Shanghai, Messrs. Budsu, Rogliano, Bondon and Douxeau; for Saigon, from Kobe, Mrs. Nacahada; from Chefoo via Nagasaki, Mr. Pellet; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Messrs. West and Martin; for Batavia, from Yokohama, Mr. Roskowski; for Port Said, from Shanghai, Messrs. J. Protele, N. Braga, Gretchka, J. Chroustchow, Dolrovolsky, W. Dolrovolsky, Dr. Iwanhoff and Dr. Guertka; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Capt. Leneque; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Ishaikoffski and Vullard Baron; from Shanghai, Messrs. Dasulas Aleans, J. Colombon, Polletti Juge, Guyok Claude and Liorxon Jean.

Per *Coromandel*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. A. B. Rouse, Sergt. and Mrs. Henderson, Miss J. Thompson, Miss D. de Jong and Miss M. Clare; from Marseilles, Messrs. J. Eburle, G. B. Parlett, Schmidtborn, Mr. and Mrs. Aleotra and four children; from Brindisi, Mr. J. L. H. O'Neil; from Colombo, Mr. R. Molesworth; from Singapore, Mrs. Newson; for Shanghai from London, Messrs. A. Sutherland, Stanion, L. Melville and Mrs. Brandreth; from Bombay, Lieut. E. W. Mahon; from Singapore, Messrs. D. D. Laing, Moller and Noon.

DEPARTED.

Per *Japan*, for London, from Yokohama, Capt. and Mrs. Talbot; from Kobe, Mrs. and Miss Smithers; from Shanghai, Miss Brazier, Surgeon W. Keith, R.N., Mrs. and Master Conner; from Hongkong, Mrs. and Misses Shelton Hooper, Sub-Lieut. Parker, R.N., Mr. F. E. H. Johns, R.N., and Mr. H. G. Wilson, R.N.; for Singapore, Mr. H. O. Elkington.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Kichichi, Mr. Brown Gill, Mrs. Beer, Miss Salignac, Messrs. Findlay, C. Junker, J. L. Davis, W. T. Davis, Takisbith and J. Montaner.

Per *Nippon Maru*, for Shanghai, Mrs. G. Brown, Messrs. E. M. Cohen, C. W. Wolkerson, V. Peterson and W. Milbrodt; for Nagasaki, Messrs. R. McCaner, N. Ochika and M. R. Russell; for Kobe, Messrs. W. F. Firth and J. Mahoffey; for London, Mr. Hans Sundt.

Per *Humberg*, for Shanghai, from Hongkong, Messrs. G. Peace and O. Valerio; from Bremen and ports of call, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wolder, Mr. W. Disch, Dr. Oppen, Major Lauenstein, Count von Magini, Capt. Gildemeister, Capt. Gadeke, Capt. Bredow, Lieut. S. Kahn, Miss A. M. Baltenchut, Mrs. Boyes, Messrs. H. Westphal, F. Hermann, H. Hoffmann, Mrs. G. Pedel, Mrs. E. Leder, Messrs. J. P. Jersen, Ch. W. Volkersen, E. B. Mengel, W. Petersen, P. Mohrstedt, O. Weinland, J. Randing, Rev. H. Newcomb, Messrs. Rich. Neumann, H. Herdorff, Grimmell, Markwald, A. McKechnie, Wisting, V. Puckaski, C. Angree, A. Manig, A. Zenner, M. Drucker, J. Tovbin, T. Goldenberg, M. Grunberg, Mr. and Mrs. Klopfer; for Japan, from Bremen and ports of call, Dr. W. Grevel, Messrs. P. Friedmann, G. S. Cowie, A. C. M. Rasmussen, F. Dankwerts, St. Duncan, P. Gampert, C. M. Benadickter, St. Lurmann, A. S. Kingsford, Mr. and Mrs. O. Biekelmann, Dr. T. Shika, Dr. Y. Ikeda, Dr. T. Giotoku, Dr. Kumagai, Dr. Hefele, Dr. L. Riess, Messrs. Bilgen, C. McKellar, Eiddell, Copper, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Moses, Miss M. Nickel, Mr. and Mrs. W. Nallack, Messrs. M. Egure and H. Burton.

Per *Shanghai*, for Shanghai, from Hongkong, Mrs. Blechynden; from London, Mr. Blechynden, Sub-Lieut. Matland Addison, R.N., and Paymaster Eldred, R.N.; for Yokohama, from London, Mr. A. J. Ingham.

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Printed and published by ALFRED CUNNINGHAM for the Concerned, at 14, Des Voeux Road Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong.
London Office: 121, Fleet Street, E.C.